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SPEECHES

BY

LORD HARDINGE OF PENSHURST

VICEROY AND GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF INDIA.

VOLUME II.



CALCUTTA
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1914

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SPEECHES

BY LORD HARDINGE OF PENSHURST.

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SPEECHES BY LORD HARDINGE OF PENSHURST.

II.—SPEECHES MADE IN INDIA.

1913-1914.

MEETING OF THE IMPERIAL LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AT SIMLA.

[A two day sitting of the Imperial Legislative Council was held 17th Sept. at Viceregal Lodge on the 9th and 17th September. 1913.]

In closing the meeting His Excellency the President spoke as follows :—]

As much has occurred since I last had the occasion of addressing you on public affairs, I propose to avail myself of this opportunity to touch upon certain matters of importance in which my Council and public opinion in India may be interested.

For many months past the horizon of Europe has been darkened by war and by the fear of its extension to an internecine struggle between the great military nations of Europe such as the world has never yet seen. That such a dire and universal calamity has been averted is largely due to the tact, patience and ability of a great statesman, Sir Edward Grey, and of other European statesmen who were equally determined that the deplorable conflict in the Balkans should be localised. The

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dreadful war that has raged in the Balkans and the loss of life in battle, by disease and famine that it has entailed, must strike a chord of sorrow and regret in the hearts of all who have the least pretension to feelings of humanity and civilisation, and should serve as an object-lesson to the nations of the world of the horrors of war and the impossibility of foreseeing its ultimate consequences. It did not, however, require the gift of prophecy to foresee that war between Turkey and the Balkan States had long been inevitable. I speak with some knowledge, for, in addition to my close connection with Turkish affairs when Head of the Foreign Office in London, I have spent during the course of my career in the Diplomatic Service no less than eight years in Turkey and three years in Bulgaria. The only chance of avoiding this war would have been to have accepted the disinterested counsels repeatedly urged upon Turkey by Great Britain, and to have introduced such reforms in the Turkish provinces as would have satisfied the subjects of Turkey of different denominations who inhabited them. But during the reign of the former Sultan, Abdul Hamid, other counsels prevailed. It was then that the seeds of all the present troubles were sown. When the revolution of 1909 brought in constitutional Government, the British Government welcomed the change, since it held out hopes of a new era of justice, reform and progress, and they gave the movement their encouragement and firm support. But again a situation arose at Constantinople which hastened the coming disaster. I mention these things, not coldly, but with profound regret, for I have a great admiration and respect for the Turks of the provinces amongst whom I have travelled and lived absolutely alone, both in Asia Minor and European Turkey, and have invariably received from them that courtesy and hospitality that are inherent in their nature. It is not they, however, who have con-

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trolled the destinies of Turkey. That admirable person, the Turkish soldier, is, from all accounts, the same brave, patient and obedient hero that he ever was, but in this war he has never had a chance. I have taken some trouble to recount these facts in order to show that Great Britain has for many years done her utmost to assist Turkey with disinterested counsel and strong moral support. To the last moment Great Britain did all that was possible to prevent the outbreak of war. Furthermore, as stated by Lord Morley in the House of Lords, the British Government during the course of the war made representations to the belligerents on behalf of the Mahommedan population to an extent never done before. The British Government, who fully realise the importance of the existence of Turkey as an independent Power, and, in view of the religious interests of the Mahommedans of India, the necessity for the maintenance of the *status quo* as regards the Holy Places in Arabia, are still anxious and ready to help the Turkish Government to introduce reforms and good government and to consolidate the position of Turkey. There is absolutely no reason why Turkey, while pursuing a steady policy of reform, should not still be strong and powerful and the second greatest Mahommedan Power in the world. Her recent reverses may, it is hoped, have the effect of awakening and renovating the administration of Turkey.

Turning to Persia, another Mahommedan Power, I can only repeat what I have said in connection with Turkey, *viz.*, that His Majesty's Government are sincerely desirous of seeing a strong Government in Persia that will introduce reforms and restore order in the provinces, especially in Southern Persia, where India has so many commercial interests at stake. In proof of our disinterested attitude towards Persia, we have recently lent that Government a considerable sum of

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of the extreme sensitiveness of the Colonial Governments to any interference with their legislative independence in administrative matters, but also on account of the objections raised by the inhabitants of the Colonies to Asiatic immigration of any kind except as indentured labourers. Nevertheless, the Government of India fully recognise their responsibilities, and that it is their duty to do their utmost to maintain the equality of our Indian fellow-subjects with our Colonial fellow-subjects, and to lose no opportunity of bringing their views before the Government of the King-Emperor.

I think that the Government of India may honestly claim that they have spared no efforts to protect the interests of our Indian fellow-subjects in the Colonies. Since the year 1910 we have been in constant correspondence with the Secretary of State on the subject of grievances of Indians in the Colonies, and we shall continue to urge our views until redress is obtained. We have, as Hon'ble Members are perhaps aware, a Commission composed of a member of the Civil Service and an Indian gentleman of industrial experience, who at the present moment are visiting those Crown Colonies to which indentured emigration is still permitted with a view to making a thorough investigation into the conditions of employment of Indians, and generally into their position and treatment in those Colonies. We have not ignored the disabilities of Indians and their families in Canada, and we have at last succeeded in obtaining that temporary permits to British Indian subjects desiring to visit Canada will be issued in all proper cases. There are other points that we have submitted to the Secretary of State as requiring redress, and we have laid special stress on the right of entry of the wives and children of Indians who have acquired Canadian domicile. The question of Indian immigration into South Africa is still under discussion with the Colonial Government, and I

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am in hopes that some of the defects of the Bill recently passed by the Colonial Parliament may yet be remedied. What I wish to assure Hon'ble Members of Council and the Indian public generally is that the Government of India are keenly jealous of the welfare of our Indian fellow-subjects in British Colonies and elsewhere, and that we watch carefully over their interests. We work quietly and steadily, and we believe that in this way our efforts are more likely to meet with success.

Having dealt in a somewhat cursory manner with the external affairs of India, I will now touch lightly on a few points connected with the internal affairs of this Empire.

I am happy to think that the material prosperity of India has been quite phenomenal. During the year 1912, the imports of merchandise rose from £92 millions to £107 millions, while the exports rose from £160 millions to £164 millions, and the total trade from £244 millions to £271 millions. These last figures show a net increase of £27 millions, or 11 per cent. In rate of progression, India therefore compares favourably with any of the principal countries of the world. Under present circumstances, there is no reason why this prosperity should not continue, although it would be wise not to raise our hopes too high.

I am glad to say that, treating India as a whole, peace and prosperity may be said generally to prevail, but there has been, I am sorry to say, an appalling increase of lawlessness and of violent crime in the Northern and Western Punjab. The Lieutenant-Governor in a very able speech in August last denounced the situation as a blot on the administration and a disgrace to the community. He at the same time urged the co-operation of the people with the authorities to remove this disgrace by using their influence to prevent crime and their knowledge to secure the detection and punish-

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ment of criminals. Should such co-operation fail, and the means of punishment prove inadequate, the Local Government will not hesitate to propose such changes as may be necessary to secure the protection of life and property and to combat crime with success. I trust that, with the co-operation of the people, no such measures will be necessary.

There has been elsewhere another centre of disturbance, where I hope and trust that, with the growing co-operation of the inhabitants, normal conditions may be soon restored. I allude to the regrettable recrudescence of dacoities that has taken place during the past few months in the eastern part of Bengal, some of them being of a particularly savage character. I do not want to exaggerate the importance of these deplorable incidents, but one may well ask the cause and origin of such acts in a Presidency where any excuse for disorder and unrest has been removed by the gracious announcements of the King-Emperor, and it would be difficult to find an answer to this enquiry. Some of these dacoities perpetrated by so-called *bhadralog* have been described as political dacoities. Personally I fail to see any difference between an ordinary dacoity and a political dacoity. They are both crimes of a heinous description, while the perpetrators, be they *bhadralog* or others, are all criminals of equal degree, the *bhadralog* being, if anything, worse than the others, since from their position they have not the same temptation brought on by want and misery, and from their education they ought to know better. It is a source of profound regret to me that students from schools and colleges should, on more than one occasion, have taken part in such proceedings. Very different indeed was the conduct of those students from the schools and colleges and University of Calcutta who went to the relief of the unfortunate sufferers from the recent terrible floods, who were in danger of death from

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hunger or drowning. Those are the young men whom we can honestly and heartily admire for their courage and endurance.

I trust that some of those ill-advised young men who engage in dacoities may take my words to heart and turn over a new leaf, for the injury inflicted on respectable families, by the acts of some of their younger members under the evil influences to which unfortunately they are often exposed in some of their schools and colleges, has become a serious matter in Bengal, and calls for active co-operation on the part of the respectable bulk of the population with the authorities to ensure internal peace, without which it is impossible to secure the progress and development of the Presidency which we all desire to see.

There have also been, as we all know, sad events at Cawnpore, to which I am unable to refer, since they are still *sub judice*; but I may be permitted to say that they have caused me deep distress, and that I am full of sorrow for the innocent widows and orphans in the losses they have sustained. At the same time I wish to assure you that there is, and has been, absolutely no change in the policy of Government towards the religious beliefs and usages of the subjects of the King-Emperor in India, to whom freedom from molestation or disquiet by reason of their religious faith and the enjoyment of equal and impartial protection of the law in their religious observances are assured.

The deep interest that we all take in the progress of education in India induces me to make a few remarks on the subject. We have not forgotten His Majesty's inspiring message which still rings in our ears, and I and my Government will leave no stone unturned to realise the hopes enshrined in that gracious utterance. From the very outset I and my Government have been deeply interested in all that goes to develop and improve

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education in India. When I assumed charge of the office of Viceroy, the total public expenditure on education was just less than 4 crores of rupees. Since that date grants have been made by my Government to Local Governments to the extent of 4 crores 79 lakhs non-recurring, and 1 crore 15 lakhs recurring. This is but the beginning of a policy which we hope to develop as rapidly as the financial situation permits.

In view of these facts and of the actions of myself and my Government, I am somewhat surprised to see, in certain quarters, hints, statements or suspicions that we contemplate the arrest, or the extinction, of higher education. Out of the grants that I have mentioned, a sum of over 125 lakhs non-recurring and over $27\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs recurring has been allotted to University, College, and secondary education, not without criticisms from some sides that higher and secondary education should look after themselves, and that the entire resources of the State should be concentrated on primary education.

Our policy has been laid down in the Resolution of the 21st February, and I challenge anyone to say that it is not both liberal and progressive.

You may rest assured that there is absolutely no foundation whatever in the rumours that my Government looks with little favour on higher education, whether in secondary schools or in colleges or in Universities. We have set before ourselves a high ideal. We desire to give the young generation of India, by means of improved education, as good a chance in life as we Englishmen have received. We desire, above all, to cultivate high intellectual and moral character in institutions where the general tone is one of sound learning and instruction tempered by healthy emulation in sports. At the same time I would wish that the youth of India should be taught wisely and well to be truly patriotic, to serve their country with unselfish devotion, to appre-

Opening of the Hardinge Hospital at Dharmapore.

ciate to the full their own great historical traditions, and to take a pride in belonging to the land in which they were born. As a father myself, I can sympathise with the parents of India in their aspirations for their children. I hope to see the young generation of the schools and Universities of this land grow up into honest, able and clever men who will play their part, not only in the administration, but also in the social, moral and material development of this great Empire with a clear perception of responsibility, and a true appreciation of their duty to the Empire, to their families and to themselves. And when I think of the students, whom I have had the pleasure of seeing in different parts of India, and with many of whom I have had the advantage of conversation, I am filled with a feeling of hope and enthusiasm. It is to the students that my heart goes out, and I feel that no sacrifice is too great for their welfare and for their education, for with them and their posterity lie the future of this land and the destiny of India.

With these few remarks I conclude, and I now declare this session adjourned.

OPENING OF THE HARDINGE HOSPITAL AT
DHARMPORE.

[On Friday the 19th September His Excellency the Viceroy 19th Sept.
opened the Hospital, the foundation stone of which he had laid two 1913.
years ago.

In asking the Viceroy to declare the Hospital open, His Highness the Maharaja of Patiala read the following address :—

Your Excellency,—On the occasion of the laying of the foundation stone of this hospital by Your Excellency, in October 1911, I explained that its primary object would be to treat advanced cases of consumption, and thus serve as an adjunct to the King Edward Sanatorium. I explained at the same time that, as I had long realised the necessity of building a hospital for my subjects in the villages surrounding Dharmapore, and that as it was pointed out to me by medical experts that, with proper precautions, advanced

Opening of the Hardinge Hospital at Dharmapore.

casos of consumption could be treated in a General Hospital, without any risk of infection to non-consumptive patients, I decided to make the institution adaptable for both purposes.

The hospital, as Your Excellency will presently see, is provided with bacteriological and analysis rooms, and is well equipped from the standpoint of a Consumption Hospital. The wards, which are airy and well-lighted, can accommodate twelve in-patients. Should necessity arise to increase the accommodation, this can be easily done by building cottages on the land to the west which also belongs to the hospital.

The staff of the hospital consists of a medical officer of the Assistant Surgeon grade, who has received special training in the Kusaali Research Institute for a period of six months, a Laboratory Assistant, Compounders, Dais and the menial staff. The hospital will be under the supervision of the medical adviser to my State.

The cost of the hospital buildings has been about Rs. 90,000 and of the equipment about Rs. 7,000. I have further agreed to contribute Rs. 15,000 towards the scheme of a good water-supply, both for this hospital and the King Edward Sanatorium.

In conclusion, I must express my deep indebtedness to Your Excellency for your keen sympathy with this hospital, the first of its kind in India. It was very kind of Your Excellency to permit me to call it after the name of your illustrious grandfather, who was one of the truest friends Patiala State ever has had. On 3rd October 1911 Your Excellency was pleased to break journey here on your way up from Delhi to Simla to lay the foundation stone of this hospital, and to-day you have very kindly travelled down to open it.

I earnestly wish and pray that this institution may, with the blessing of God, effectually serve its object, and be the means of saving many lives and relieving physical suffering due to disease in all aspects.

May I now request Your Excellency to unlock the main door with this key and declare it open?

In reply His Excellency spoke as follows :—]

Your Highness, Ladies and Gentlemen,—Upon the stone which I laid two years ago has now arisen this imposing building with several very modern improvements, such as the new form of heating apparatus by radiators, and a new form of gas-lighting. There was, I understand, at one time considerable difficulty regard-

Opening of the Hardinge Hospital at Dharmapore.

ing the water-supply, but thanks to the generosity of Your Highness and of a liberal and large-hearted philanthropist, who has forbidden me to mention his name, that the problem is in a fair way of solution, and we hope to get an excellent supply of water from a curious old tunnel at Burogh, six miles away.

This institution starts therefore under the happiest auspices, but I want to emphasise the fact that it does not stand alone, but is part of a general scheme, of which the sanatorium over the way is the complement, and I earnestly appeal to Your Highness to make it your business to see that these two institutions work together hand in hand, and in complete harmony.

The sanatorium is for the treatment of early and curable cases, the hospital for the reception of more advanced cases. Patients, directly they pass the first stage of the disease in the sanatorium, should be transferred to the hospital, and bed-ridden cases should in no case remain at the sanatorium, while convalescent cases at the hospital should be transferred to the sanatorium before they are allowed to return to their homes. I should hardly have thought it necessary to mention this matter, but for the fact that the two institutions are not under identical management, for the sanatorium, which owed its inception to the brain, ever busy with schemes for the benefit of suffering humanity, of our lamented friend, Mr. Malabari, and its inauguration to the hearty co-operation and generous assistance of Your Highness, is under the control of a Committee, while the hospital is the creation of Your Highness alone, and will be worked by officials of the Patiala State under the direct orders of Your Highness.

There should, however, be a perfect understanding between the two, and to that end I would venture to advise Your Highness to have drawn up, with the assistance of your medical advisers and in collaboration with

Opening of the Hardinge Hospital at Dharmapore.

the Sanatorium Committee, a set of rules, with a view to securing the best possible results from the co-operation of the two institutions and preventing any possibility of friction or jealousy.

There is one other point to which I am sure Your Highness will forgive me for referring on this occasion. Phthisis, at any rate in the pulmonary form, is an infectious disease. The danger to others has been proved to be slight as long as certain precautions are taken, and in all well-regulated institutions is practically nil. But there have been cases at Dharmapore which have been benefited by treatment at the sanatorium, but not cured, and some of these patients have built houses and settled down in the neighbourhood. They are under no control whatever, nor can any efficient regulations be applied to them. This is a source of public danger, and I appeal to Your Highness, with all the earnestness at my command, to prevent this form of colonisation round about Dharmapore. Rigid rules should be framed preventing known consumptives from settling down anywhere in the neighbourhood except in the institutions provided for that purpose.

I am very glad to have once more the opportunity of showing my great interest in the general scheme, of which this hospital is to form a part, for fighting one of the most terrible evils that beset humanity. This is the third time that I have visited Dharmapore in the same cause, and I do not think I need adduce any further evidence to show what great importance I attach to the experiment here being made, how gladly I should welcome a verdict from our doctors that it had proved a success, and how earnestly I desire that no stone should be left unturned to insure that its chances of success shall not be marred by any neglect of obvious precautions, or by any contravention of accepted principles.

Meeting of the St. John Ambulance Association at Simla.

I will now proceed to open this, the Hardinge Hospital. I hope that it has before it a long career of usefulness, and that within its walls health may be restored to the sick and hope to the hopeless, and that those who are alas! beyond the aid of human agency, may close their eyes in such peace as the most skilful medical attendance and the most tender care can secure. I congratulate Your Highness upon the kindness of heart which has prompted the foundation of this building and upon the success which has attended the execution of your plans.

MEETING OF THE ST. JOHN AMBULANCE ASSOCIATION
AT SIMLA.

[The fifth annual general meeting of the St. John Ambulance Association was held at Viceregal Lodge in the afternoon of the 20th September on the lawns to the north of the house. The grounds were charmingly arranged for the occasion and the Viceroy's Band was in attendance. The meeting was held in a large *shamiana*. The Viceroy and Lady Hardinge, who took their seats on a platform, were supported by Lord and Lady Willingdon, Sir Michael and Lady O'Dwyer, Sir Trevor Wynne, Surgeon-General Sloggett, Mr. Sharp and Sir James du Boulay. The last named, in opening the proceedings, said that Lady Hardinge had become President of the Indian Branch and also that Her Excellency had presented a handsome challenge bowl for competition among ladies of India who hold first aid and nursing certificates of the Association. Mr. W. E. Jardine, Resident at Gwalior, has presented a challenge shield for competition amongst Boy Scouts, and General Haffz Obidullah Khan, C.S.I., of Bhopal, has presented a challenge shield for competition among units of the St. John Ambulance Brigade in India and Burma. The meeting approved the arrangement whereby the All-India Ambulance Competition should be held at Delhi on 16th February 1914 and subsequent days, and all the proposed proceedings were sanctioned. The Viceroy then presented Honorary Serving Brothers' badges to Major Gardiner, O. and R. Railway, and Major Hepper, G. I. P. Railway, a silver donat badge to Colonel Dhanpat Rai, Commandant, Jaipur Ambulance Corps, and the police ambulance challenge shield to Mr. Fox, Superintendent of Police, and three Indian Police representatives from Moradabad.]

Meeting of the St. John Ambulance Association at Simla.

Major Blackham, Honorary Secretary, next addressed the meeting, and in presenting the report said :—

May it please Your Excellencies,—It is most gratifying for the fifth year in succession to have to report undiminished and increasing progress of the St. John Ambulance Association in India. Indeed, the past year's work has been the best during the whole period of the Indian branch's existence, as out of a total of 219 centres nearly a hundred have been added to the roll during the past year. Splendid work is reported from the provincial centres of Assam, Bihar and Orissa, Burma, Central India, the Central Provinces, the Punjab and the United Provinces. With reference to the last named province, it will be remembered that no reports were received from 1910 till 1912, and it is therefore with the utmost satisfaction that I have to announce that a vast amount of work has been done in this province and that numerous district and local centres are now in existence. The Association is fortunate in securing the services of Mr. G. Ramsay Murray, I.C.S., Registrar of the High Court, Allahabad, as Honorary Secretary of the centre. His Excellency the Governor of Bengal promises to arrange for the formation of a Bengal provincial centre and it is hoped that this much desired centre will soon be an accomplished fact. The so-called Bombay provincial centre, which was in reality only a town centre for Bombay, has now been replaced by the Bombay Presidency centre with head-quarters at Poona and His Excellency the Governor is at the head of the centre. It is fully expected that much good work will now be accomplished by this centre as hitherto very little work has been done in the Western Presidency outside the city of Bombay. With regard to the Southern India provincial centre, His Excellency the Governor of Madras has evinced great interest in the aims and objects of our Association and promised to take up the organisation of his provincial centre on more complete lines.

I propose briefly to refer to the various sections of the work of the Branch under different headings, and venture to remind Your Excellencies that the work of this branch is not merely instruction in first aid: it also embraces the education of all classes of the community in elementary sanitation and home nursing. Indeed, it will be seen that the future expansion of the Association will be largely in the direction of the diffusion of an elementary knowledge of the care of sick people and hygiene of the home.

(1) *Military Forces*.—The work under this heading has undergone considerable improvement and the amount carried out this year is in advance of all previous years. I have to report the

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formation of the first regimental centre of the Association by the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, and it is hoped that many military units in India will have their own centres shortly. His Highness the Maharaja Scindia of Gwalior has presented an ambulance challenge shield for competition amongst the regular troops in India and Burma (British and Indian), and this is no doubt the cause of the greater interest shown by the military forces. The first competition for the Gwalior shield was held at Lucknow last February. The shield was won by the 14th (King's) Hussars and the runners-up were the 5th Light Infantry, an Indian unit which scored higher marks than two British regiments.

(2) *Volunteers.*—Work amongst the Volunteers is on the increase, but there still remains a great deal of room for improvement.

(3) *Railways.*—All but three of the leading Indian railways have formed centres of their own and are doing excellent work. In recognition of this work the Order of St. John had, with the sanction of His Majesty, made two leading railway officers, Major L. Hepper and Major Gardiner, members of the Order, and Your Excellency has been graciously pleased to consent to decorate these officers as part of the business of the meeting. The King-Emperor's Railway Ambulance Challenge Shield was competed for at Lucknow during last February. Fourteen teams entered the competition. The Oudh and Rohilkhand Railway team won with 925 points, the N. W. Railway being close runners-up with 919 out of 1,000.

(4) *Police.*—It was stated at last year's meeting that the Indian railways constituted the backbone of ambulance work in India. They will, however, have to look to their laurels as the police are running them very close, if they have not already outstripped them. It will be seen from the statement in the report that nearly 200,000 police have been trained in first aid during the past two years and that 5,500 are wearing the St. John badge. The handsome challenge shield presented by His Excellency the Viceroy for competition among the different units of the police will be presented by His Excellency to the winners of the first competition, the Moradabad police, to-day.

(5) *Schools and Colleges.*—First aid work is being carried out in many of the schools and colleges of India, and during the past year every school and convent in Simla has had its course or courses of instruction. The Indian branch is in correspondence with the Educational Department with reference to the introduction of instruction in home hygiene in Indian schools. If the proposals under consideration are accepted by Provincial Governments this

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will become a dominant feature of the work of the branch. A special primer of hygiene is now ready and it is hoped that the Government of India (Education Department) will make it the official text-book for all Indian schools.

(6) Native States.—We have now 35 State centres, being an advance of 17 on last year's total. Much good work is being done by the majority of these centres.

General Obaidullah Khan, C.S.I., Her Highness the Begam of Bhopal's youngest son, under whose care the Urdu translation of the *Indian Manual of First Aid* was carried out, has kindly presented a handsome challenge shield to the Indian Council for competition amongst the different units of the St. John Ambulance Brigade in India and Burma. This shield will replace the present cup, which will be presented to the runners-up in future competitions.

(7) Imperial Service Troops.—His Highness the Raja of Dewas (junior branch) has presented a handsome challenge shield for competition amongst the members of this service, and work in this direction will doubtless show marked improvement during the current year. The Inspector-General has now under consideration the question of ambulance instruction in the Imperial Service Troops army, and it is understood that in future only men with the Association certificates will be regarded as efficient ambulance men. The work of Rai Bahadur Colonel Dhanpat Rai, C.I.E., of Jaipur, is well-known to ambulance men and women in India, and part of the business of the meeting is the presentation by Your Excellency of the silver donat badge of the Order of St. John, which His Majesty the King-Emperor has awarded to Colonel Dhanpat Rai. Both Sir Rollo Grimston and Colonel Watson have evinced the keenest interest in the extension of this branch of the work of the Association.

(8) Indian Mines.—Much good work is being done in the Indian Mines, especially the Bengal coal fields centre, the Kolar goldfields centre and the Jherriah collieries centre.

(9) Ambulance Intelligence.—The branch is now well up to date as regards literature. Concerning its work the fourth edition of the White Book has just been issued and is laid before Your Excellencies. This edition is much beautified by the photograph of Her Excellency the Lady President. A copy will be presented to each person attending this meeting. The *Indian Ambulance Gazette* is now in its third volume and subscriptions are steadily increasing. It is worthy of note that we have subscribers in every part of the world, including Canada, New Zealand, Malta and South Africa.

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(10) All-India Ambulance Competitions.—The competitions for His Majesty the King-Emperor's Volunteer and Railway Shields, the Lord Hardinge Police Trophy, His Highness the Maharaja Scindia of Gwalior's Trophy for regular troops, His Highness the Raja of Dewas' trophy for Imperial Service Troops and the St. John Ambulance Brigade Cup were held at Lucknow last February. The gathering was a record one, no fewer than 46 teams entering for the various events against 21 in 1912, which in its turn was the largest since 1904 when these competitions were first started by the presentation by His Majesty (then Prince of Wales and Grand Prior of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem in England) of the Volunteer and Railway shields.

(11) Indian Stores Depot.—In accordance with the decision of the Executive Committee this time last year the Indian Stores Depot has been placed under a paid manager, as no gentleman in public employment or private business could possibly spare the time to carry on the ever-increasing work of distributing certificates, stores and ambulance material throughout the vast Empire. The headquarters of the Indian Stores Depot are now located in Bombay Fort. It will be seen by the statement in the annual report that nearly 7,000 certificates of various kinds have been issued in India during the past year.

(12) Text Books and Manuals.—We have to report great progress during the past year with reference to Indian text books. The *Indian Manual of First Aid* was published in January, 1913, and its rapid sale indicates that it supplies a long-felt want for an Indian manual on the subject. The branch is deeply indebted to Her Highness the Begum of Bhopal, who has kindly presented the Indian Council with a first edition of 5,000 copies of the Urdu translation of the Manual. The *Primer of Tropical Hygiene* is now ready. The Indian Branch is again much indebted to Mr. Jardine, Resident of Gwalior, who has arranged for the primer to be published.

(13) Finance.—The financial position of the branch has improved during the past year owing to the generosity of a few Ruling Chiefs, but the branch requires further financial support if its work continues to grow as it is doing at present.

The Indian Council has only about Rs. 17,000 available in the headquarters fund and if it is to be of real value as an ambulance society and provide trained bands of men and women for the service of their country in national emergency a large central fund is imperatively necessary. It is hoped that during the ensuing year some philanthropic gentlemen will come forward and place the branch

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in the position of similar organisations at Home, who were able to furnish complete hospitals and ambulance for the services of suffering humanity in peace calamities such as the Messina earthquake, the war during the Italo-Turkish campaign and the recent struggles in the Balkans. The men and women are ready and willing to give their services, but the money to equip and furnish such parties is still lacking in India.

(14) *St. John Ambulance Brigade.*—The Brigade is a young organisation in India, as it was practically unknown until 1909, when its development was seriously undertaken after the reorganisation by Lord and Lady Minto of the parent organisation, the St. John Ambulance Association. Its utility was first tested on a large scale at the Coronation Durbar, when a contingent, over 100 strong, with a large quantity of ambulance transport and 50 draught and riding animals, were present throughout the entire Durbar. As this maiden effort of the Brigade in India was so successful it was suggested at the last annual meeting that a contingent should be furnished for the State Entry into Delhi. This suggestion met with the approval of Your Excellencies, and the Executive Committee of the Indian Branch, St. John Ambulance Association, gave it their cordial support and voted a sum for expenses. The services of the Brigade on this occasion are so well-known as only to call for a passing reference, but we may say that recent experiences at Delhi have once and for all justified the existence of the Brigade in India, and it may safely be predicted that the presence of a contingent of the Brigade will not be merely encouraged but demanded on all future occasions when great crowds assemble in all parts of the Indian Empire.

In conclusion, a reference to the list of active centres will show that the work of the India Ambulance Council is being carried on with vigour in even the most remote parts of the Empire. Indeed, the very names of some of our centres are unfamiliar to many of us, and one is justified in looking forward to the day when this association and its three-fold mission (1) to aid the injured, (2) to nurse the sick, and (3) to prevent disease, will be a household word in even the poorest houses of India.

In reply His Excellency spoke as follows:—]

Ladies and Gentlemen,—This is only the second occasion on which I have had the privilege of presiding at an Annual Meeting of the St. John Ambulance Association, but during my comparatively short rule over the fortunes of the Indian Branch, it is very gratifying

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to find that the ambulance work in India has progressed literally by leaps and bounds.

I would like to mention as an interesting coincident that one of the earliest pioneers of the movement was the late Lady Brassey, the mother of Lady Willingdon, whom we have the pleasure of having with us to-day.

A great deal of this progress has been on the Indian Railways, and I am pleased that this meeting has coincided with the Railway Conference, of which I am so happy to see so many members are present here to-day. A marked advance has also been made by the Police, to the winning team of which I have just had the pleasure of presenting my Ambulance Challenge Shield.

The services of the association at the Coronation Durbar, or rather of its trained men who are banded together under the name of the St. John Ambulance Brigade, are still fresh in the memory of us all, whilst I myself and Lady Hardinge are never likely to forget the benefits which we personally received from the Ambulance Contingent on the 23rd December last. In view of these services one is inclined to regard the work of the association as chiefly that of rendering First Aid, but the Honorary General Secretary in his report has emphasised the fact that the mission of the association goes further, and that it seeks to be a means of spreading a knowledge of elementary nursing and sanitation throughout the length and breadth of this great Empire.

As is well known the diffusion of a knowledge of sanitation is one of the greatest desires of myself and my Government, and judging by its thorough organisation and the success which has attended its labours so far. there is every reason to hope that this association may be a very real help to Government in its endeavours in this direction.

Prize Distribution at Bishop Cotton School, Simla.

Although described as an offshoot of the parent association, the Indian branch is, to all intents and purposes, an entirely *Indian* Ambulance Society.

It owes allegiance to the parent society and the ancient Order of St. John, of which it is a department, and is proud of its association with these bodies; but it is at the same time organised entirely for the benefit of India and the Indian people.

Quite recently the branch offered a complete sanitary equipment to the Italian-Himalayan exploration expedition, a portion of which was gladly accepted, so the association has wide aims and objects in India and is worthy of much more support from philanthropic Indians than it has hitherto received.

The Lady President, Lady Hardinge, and myself are keenly interested in the work of the association, and will watch with interest the progress of its three-fold mission of aiding the injured, nursing the sick, and preventing disease.

We trust that before we leave India our Honorary Secretary's prophecy will have been fulfilled, and that the St. John Ambulance Association will be a household word in most of the homes in India.

PRIZE DISTRIBUTION AT BISHOP COTTON SCHOOL,
SIMLA.

3rd Oct. [Their Excellencies attended the Annual Prize Distribution at
1913 Bishop Cotton School on 3rd October, when the Viceroy distributed the prizes.

The Headmaster of the School read his Annual Report, which was as follows :—

TO THE GOVERNORS OF BISHOP COTTON SCHOOL.

Gentlemen,—I have the honour to submit my Annual Report.

In the first place I must draw your attention to the fact that the school has now been founded for fifty years. The first pupil was admitted on the 16th March 1863, when the school was opened at Jutogh.

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After a few years, as the situation at Jutogh was found unsatisfactory, the school was removed to its present site in Simla. This removal took place on the 26th September 1868. The Chapel was consecrated on St. Matthew's Day, 21st September 1871, by the Bishop of Calcutta.

The first Headmaster was the Rev. S. Slater, who held his office until the end of 1884. The other Headmasters have been the Rev. H. M. Robinson, D.D., 1885-1886; Rev. E. A. Ions, M.A., 1887-1900; Rev. H. M. Lewis, M.A., 1901.

The school was built at Simla to accommodate 150 boarders, but this number has never been reached; the maximum number of boarders in any one year being 127. The total number of boys in the school, boarders and day-boys, since 1871 has varied between 80 in the year after the school buildings were burnt down and 175 in 1896, and has generally been about 120.

In the present year the number of boys shows a satisfactory increase. There left at the end of last year 17 boarders and 7 day-boys; the number of new boys this year has been 29 boarders and 7 day-boys, an increase of 12, making the numbers at present in the school 105 boarders and 23 day-boys. An analysis of the list of the boys who left shows that 8 left at the end of their school career; of these 4 have obtained employment, 3 entered the Calcutta Medical College, and 1 is intending to take a University course. Six have gone to England (to complete their education) and 2 to the United States; 7 have gone to other schools and 1 has been unable to return owing to illness of boys who have left recently.

R. Blaker obtained the College Essay Prize at Queen's College, Oxford. D. Carberry passed into Woolwich last Christmas, gaining the 37th place. C. Brandon has been nominated by the Government of India to a Technical Scholarship to study Architecture. During the past year some change in the work of the school has become necessary owing to the decision to take the Cambridge Local Examination. The Educational Conference at Simla last year recommended that these examinations should be taken by schools; and in addition there appeared to be a considerable demand for them this year. In the Government examinations held in December last we had fair success

In the high school 6 boys passed, 2 in the first and 4 in the second class, and 4 of them obtained scholarships. In the middle school 7 passed and 2 obtained scholarships, Fullam gaining the

24 *Speeches by H. E. Lord Hardinge of Penshurst.*

Prize Distribution at Bishop Cotton School, Simla.

first placo. For the Primary Scholarship Examination we had nobody eligible to compete. Ten boys passed the Bishop of Lahore's Divinity Examination.

The general health of the school has continued to be satisfactory; but we have had unfortunately an epidemic of measles, during which we had 17 cases. The state of the building continues satisfactory, except that two rooms have had to be re-floored. Plans are being prepared for the erection of a gymnasium, on the site at present occupied by the Drill Shed, and of a new Laboratory. For these additions we are indebted to the Punjab Government. When they are completed they will add greatly to the efficiency of the school.

Turning from the work to other activities of the school, I am able to state that the school games have continued to be played with our accustomed vigour. At the beginning of the year arrangements were made to play school matches at hockey and football with the L. M. A., Sanawar. To our great regret the school team was unable to go to Sanawar for the former, but we are looking forward to entertaining them at the end of October for the football match. I feel certain that the interest aroused by these matches will be beneficial. Our great difficulty in Simla has always been to obtain suitable teams to play matches with. This year we have been much indebted to Captain Needham and Mr. Beaty for raising teams to play us. As yet the results of our matches have been : 4 won, 2 lost, 1 drawn, and I think I may claim that the team has been up to the average.

Volunteering.—The number of Cadets in the Company is 61, a slight decrease on last year caused by our refusing recruits less than 14 years of age. The company attended the Camp of Exercise of the battalion in May; since then Captain Chapman has allowed us to take part in two field days with his Sikhs, which have been most instructive and enjoyable. The Company has finished its musketry course, 55 being Marksmen and 6 First Class shots.

In the Schools of the Empire Competition our VIII was 29th, scoring 460 points. We are greatly indebted to our Colonel and Adjutant for the interest they take in the work of the cadets.

Boy Scouts.—The troop now numbers 53 and contains 8 King's Scouts and 30 Second Class Scouts, the rest being tenderfoot. Their training has been carried out with the greatest energy by the Scoutmasters and the Scouts have continued to work satisfactorily. We have to thank Major Blackham for delivering a course of lectures on first aid.

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The Old Boys' Association has again presented prizes for English, Drawing, and various Natural History Collections. It is most satisfactory that they continue to flourish and take such a genuine interest in the school.

In conclusion, I think I can claim that the Staff are working hard to improve the education we give in all directions, and are endeavouring to turn out a set of manly boys capable of doing their work thoroughly when they leave us. I have to thank the Staff for their loyal service to the school and the keenness they have displayed in all their work.

After the distribution of the prizes His Excellency addressed the assembly as follows :—]

Mr. Lewis, Ladies and Gentlemen,—It is a source of very genuine pleasure to me to have been able to visit the Bishop Cotton School and to distribute the prizes; and I take this opportunity of congratulating very heartily the boys who have won them, while to those who have tried and failed I wish better luck next time.

Prizes are admirable incentives to emulation and very pleasant things to get, but I hope none of you will run away with the idea that prizes are the be-all and the end-all of life; it is the efforts you make and the discipline you undergo to win them that are important, and the prize is only an emblem of success in a healthy competition. When you grow older and have to face the rougher struggles of the world, you will find the conditions sterner, and the competition, I fear, much more severe than now, and it is then that those of you who have learned discipline here, and always done your best, will find the habits you have formed stand you in good stead, and give you advantages over others who have not had similar training.

Mr. Lewis has given us an interesting account of the year's work, and I was particularly glad to hear that the numbers are rising. When Lord Curzon came to visit you 10 years ago, he found only 82 boys against

Prize Distribution at Bishop Cotton School, Simla.

your present number of 128, and that in itself is excellent testimony that the school is doing useful work, is prospering, and is appreciated. I was very pleased to see the smart and keen appearance of your cadet corps, which I had the pleasure of inspecting on my arrival here. I have seen them on parade and at field days on other occasions, and I can well believe that they are a credit to the Simla Volunteer Rifles, of which corps I have the honour of being Honorary Colonel. I congratulate the officers, who must have given much time and trouble to their training, upon the successful results of their labours.

Mr. Lewis has reminded us that the Bishop Cotton School is now 50 years old. It is perhaps only natural that we should accept the institutions we find around us as part of the natural order of things, and it may not be easy for the parents present here to-day to realise that there was a time, and that not so very long ago, when schools to which subordinate officials of English descent in this country could send their children were non-existent, or at any rate very few and far between; and in this your Jubilee year it is especially fitting that we should dwell for a moment upon the memory of the great and good Bishop Cotton, who clearly saw the danger of a large European population growing up in ignorance and degradation, and with unremitting labour and unflagging zeal collected funds in the hope, to use his own words, that a sound physical, intellectual and religious education might, under God's blessing, not only benefit children likely to remain permanently in the land, but might also indirectly tend to remove the barriers of prejudice and misunderstanding which separate the races to whom India is now a common country.

I am not going to give you an account of his life, which should be familiar to many of you, but most of us here can draw encouragement from it. When he was a

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little boy, school life was rough; he was not good at games and he had rather a bad time; and if there are any among you smaller boys who are not having a particularly good time now, you may take courage from his example, and remember that a rather retiring and timid little boy grew up to be a man universally loved and revered, with a marvellous influence for good, reaching out far beyond his own immediate circle. When he became a senior boy, he did not forget his own hard times, but his kindly ways made the lot of his juniors more tolerable, and the older boys among you here may draw your own lessons from that. Later on as a master he was not at first a brilliant success, he had no marked charm of manner, and his boys thought him sarcastic; but his simplicity and earnestness, combined with kindness of heart and a quiet humour, won its way and he became the trusted friend and counsellor of his pupils. Later he became a headmaster at another great school, and Mr. Lewis doubtless knows how he re-established the discipline, restored the finances and raised the tone of that school, so that it now holds its head high among the leading public schools in England. It is said that under his rule there cricket, football and wholesome sports took the place of poaching, rat-hunting and poultry-stealing, and I am glad to think that you, Sir, are not called upon to effect so serious a transformation.

In later life he once seriously lectured a Governor-General; and, though the lecture was taken in very good part, I am not sure that he had quite proper respect for Governor-Generals as a class, for on one occasion he came across the Governor-General's camp when they were both on tour, and I am sorry to say that he complained of this in his diary on the ground that the Governor-General threw everything into confusion. It is not, however, difficult to sympathise with his feelings, for I find from a letter of Lord Canning's, written shortly afterwards,

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that the Governor-General's camp contained no less than 17,000 men.

This school and others like it are a standing witness to his quiet concentration of purpose, but there are other lessons to be learned from his life and character which are of peculiar importance to us all here in India, whatever be our sect or persuasion. I refer to the fairness and justice of his mind and his readiness to recognise the rights of all. These are qualities of which the need is almost daily exemplified in the Press of this country, and which it behoves us as Englishmen to acquire and possess in all our relations with our Indian fellow-subjects. "The more," he once wrote, "residents in India feel how wonderful a country it is, how rich in scenery, architecture, historical recollections, the more they will feel that it is worth living in, worth working for, worth restoring to the greatness from which it has fallen." This is how we should all look upon life in India. Upon his grave there is no epitaph, for as you all know he was accidentally drowned in the midst of his labours in less than a fortnight after the foundation stone of these buildings was laid, but I can think of none more suitable than the words that were in the mouths of men when he died—

"His sudden removal made men brothers through a common grief."

Your school is fifty years old, and has had time to acquire a tradition and an atmosphere of its own. It has sent out a number of men who have distinguished themselves in their various walks in life, and done useful service for their country. Some of them I have had the pleasure of meeting; several I have had the pleasure of personally decorating with honours worthily won, four of them are valued members of my own personal entourage, and one of them, Mr. J. S. Donald, I have recently selected to officiate in the important and responsible post

Cawnpore Mosque Case.

of Chief Commissioner of the North-West Frontier Province. These are fine and encouraging examples for you to follow, boys; and in bidding you goodbye, I wish every one of you all success and to the Bishop Cotton School continued and increasing prosperity.

CAWNPORE MOSQUE CASE.

DEMOLITION OF DAIAN.

[The action of the Local Authorities in the case had brought about a rather serious situation and His Excellency the Viceroy determined to visit the station himself. Consequently he left Simla on the 13th October and arrived at Cawnpore on the morning of the 14th, where he was met by the Lieutenant-Governor of the United Provinces and other officials. From the station His Excellency proceeded to the Mosque, where an inspection was made of the position of the portion demolished which had brought about the state of affairs that then existed. His Excellency then proceeded to the Circuit House, where he received a deputation from the Mutawalis of the mosque and other Mahomedans, who presented the Viceroy with the following address :—

14th Oct.
1913.

May it please Your Excellency.—We, the Mussalman residents of the City of Cawnpore, beg to approach Your Excellency with this humble address of welcome on the occasion of Your Excellency's visit to this town.

We remember with gratification and pride Your Excellency's last visit to our historic city when Your Excellency was pleased to lay the Foundation Stone of the memorial to our dearly beloved late King Edward the VII, the Peace-Maker.

We greatly regret that recently the peace of our town has been disturbed by the events of the 3rd of August in connection with the Machli Bazar Mosque, and we strongly condemn the action of those who took part in the unlawful act of throwing brick-bats, or otherwise behaved in a lawless manner, and we assure Your Excellency that we, the Mussalmans of Cawnpore, are the most law-abiding and loyal subjects of His Imperial Majesty the King-Emperor.

We are fully aware of and grateful to Your Excellency for your well-known sympathy with the distress and misery of humanity in any form or shape, and we beg to offer our most grateful thanks for

Cawnpore Mosque Case.

Your Lordship's munificent donation in aid of widows and orphans in the loss that they have sustained in the recent disturbance.

We beg to assure Your Excellency that we have the fullest confidence in your justice and sympathy, and in this spirit we are content to leave the decision of the questions arising out of the present situation in Your Excellency's hands, believing that Your Excellency has at heart the best interest of our Community.

His Excellency in reply spoke as follows :—]

Gentlemen,--The address that you have just read is a source of profound satisfaction to me, since it contains not only an expression of confidence in my justice and sympathy, but of what I prize much more, *viz.*, that loyalty to our King-Emperor which, I am happy to think, has always been one of the chief characteristics of the Mahomedan community in this country. Had I not been firmly convinced of the loyal sentiments of your community, I would not have come from Simla to Cawnpore to-day.

It is unnecessary for me to repeat here the assurance that I gave quite recently in the Imperial Legislative Council that there has been no change in the policy of Government towards the religious beliefs of the subjects of the King-Emperor in India, for you all know that this is true. With the march of progress and civilisation it is always possible that the construction of roads, railways or canals may clash with existing buildings, religious or otherwise, but you may rest assured that Government will always treat with the utmost consideration the claims of any who may consider their interests affected, and will always endeavour to find a solution of the question at issue in a sense satisfactory to all concerned. Knowing, as I do, the generous and kindly character of your Lieutenant-Governor, I feel confident that, if you had been equally anxious as I have been to find a solution of the question of the mosque, you would have succeeded in doing so and in meeting Sir James Meston's

Cawnpore Mosque Case.

wishes. Had this happened, the sad and deplorable incidents of the 3rd August would not have occurred, and widows and orphans would not have had cause to mourn for their husbands and fathers.

This is now past history, which I hope may soon be forgotten. I have come from Simla with the express purpose of bringing to you peace. You tell me in your address that you are content to leave the decision of the questions arising out of the present situation in my hands, believing that I have at heart the best interests of your community. It is true that I have at heart the best interests of your community, and I have given much thought to this matter and to a possible solution. After long and careful consideration I have arrived at the decision that an arcade of at least eight feet in height should be built, upon which the *dalan* could be placed in the same relative position as before, but on a higher level, thereby securing space for the pavement below without interfering with the relative position of the buildings pertaining to the mosque. I regard it as immaterial to whom the land upon which it is built is to be considered to belong, but it is essential that the general public, as well as those who go to worship at the mosque, should be entitled to use it as a footpath. Further, the Mutawalis should build the arcade and construct the pavement below, these constructions being in accordance with plans approved by the Municipal Board.

As regards those who have been charged with having committed riot on the 3rd of August, I wish to say a few words. I am your father and you are my children. When children do wrong, it is the duty of their father, while inspired by the most kindly feelings, to admonish them, so that they may learn wisdom and not err again. My words are not addressed to you personally, but to those who are charged with having committed riot and have now suffered imprisonment for the last ten weeks

Cawnpore Mosque Case.

These, if guilty of violence, have put themselves in the wrong, for they are accused of having resisted constituted authority, and have thus not only broken the law, but also the very well-known and universally acknowledged principles of the great Islamic faith which they profess and follow. The maintenance of constituted authority is the duty of Government, and I say as head of the Government of India that, under all circumstances, it will be maintained. Under ordinary circumstances it would have been the duty of the Government to prosecute and obtain the punishment of the prisoners, but they have already suffered severely, and as I have said before I have come to Cawnpore to give peace. I also wish to show mercy. Those who instigated the riot, and who are thus responsible for the harm that has occurred, are the least deserving of consideration. But as a solution of the difficulty connected with the mosque has been found, I am anxious that the incidents which aroused so much feeling and excitement should be now buried in oblivion. I trust, however, that, if clemency is extended to the instigators, the melancholy consequences of their intemperate oratory may be a warning to them and to others against similar reckless speaking in the future.

I wish the sufferings of all those who are charged with having taken part in the riot to now cease, and I have therefore, with the full concurrence of Sir James Meston and of Mr. Baillie, invited the Local Government to take immediate steps for the provisions of section 494 of the Criminal Procedure Code to be applied to all those connected with the riot who have been committed to the Court of Session for trial.

I devoutly trust that the solution of the question of the mosque, and the decision that I have taken in connection with those now under commitment for trial, may bring peace and contentment, not only in Cawnpore, but amongst the whole of the Mahomedan community in

Opening of Grain Market at Kapurthala.

India; that no action may be taken, locally or otherwise, tending in any way to perpetuate the melancholy memories of the past few months; and that all Mahomedans may unite together in loyalty to their Sovereign, and in loyal co-operation with constituted authority for the maintenance of law and order, and for the peace, happiness and prosperity of the great and beautiful land in which we live.

[His Excellency's reply gave general satisfaction, and numerous telegrams from all parts of India were subsequently received congratulating the Viceroy on his action.]

OPENING OF MARKET PLACE AT KAPURTHALA.

[His Excellency the Viceroy arrived at Kapurthala on the 15th October. On the morning of the 16th, after holding a review of the Imperial Service Troops, the Viceroy opened the new Grain Market. The Municipal officials presented the following address :—] 16th Oct.
1913.

Your Excellency.—We, the representatives of the Kapurthala Municipality and local Chamber of Commerce, desire to express our profound sense of the high honour Your Excellency has conferred on this Mandi by consenting to open it; and we venture, with His Highness the Maharaja's permission, to request Your Excellency to allow it to be designated, as a souvenir of this auspicious occasion, "The Hardinge Gunj."

[To which His Excellency replied as follows :—]

Gentlemen.—I am very glad indeed that you should have given me an opportunity of identifying myself with your local interests, and I readily accept the part you have allotted to me in this ceremony.

This Mandi seems to have been very happily designed, and I have no doubt that it will fulfil a very useful function in your city. I now declare it open, and have great pleasure in naming it the "Hardinge Gunj."

34 *Speeches by H. E. Lord Hardinge of Penshurst.*

STATE BANQUET AT KAPURTHALA.

16th Oct 1918 [In the evening of the 16th October His Highness the Maharaja entertained His Excellency the Viceroy and a large number of guests at a State Banquet. After giving the loyal toast, the Maharaja proposed the Viceroy a health in the following terms —

Your Excellency and Gentlemen,—I cannot adequately express my sense of joy at the honour and pleasure of receiving a visit from Your Excellency. Perhaps it is not generally known that my great grandfather, Raja Nihal Singh, received a visit in this State from my distinguished guest's grandfather, Sir Henry Hardinge, Governor General of India, in the year 1846. I was reading with great interest the other day the account of the exchange of visits which took place between my ancestor and His Excellency's grandfather on that occasion, and the great courtesy and friendship shown by Sir Henry Hardinge to Raja Nihal Singh.

Gentlemen, it is needless for me to dwell on the statesmanlike abilities of His Excellency and how he has endeared himself to the Princes and the people of India by his personal charm and perfect affability of manner, and I am sure all the other Ruling Princes are most grateful to him for the thorough regard he has invariably shown for their position and dignity, the entire confidence he has always placed in them and the free and easy access he has afforded them to approach him on all State and personal affairs. These indeed have been profoundly appreciated by us all, and have induced us to the belief that he is the most sincere and genuine friend the Princes have had among those who have held the reins of the Viceroyalty of this great Empire.

Your Excellency, the loyalty and devotion of my house and State to the Paramount Power is so well known that it is hardly necessary for me to say anything more than that I have, and will always follow in this matter the good example of my illustrious ancestors. It is now 36 years ago as a minor of five that I succeeded to the State, and since I came of age and was invested with the full powers of a ruler in 1890 I have tried to do my duty towards the true advancement and welfare of my people and my State.

I am exceedingly sorry for and much regret Her Excellency's absence on this occasion, and I ask you, Gentlemen, to join me in drinking to the health, long life and prosperity of His Excellency Lord Hardinge, Viceroy and Governor General of India.

State Banquet at Kapurthala.

His Excellency the Viceroy, in responding to the toast, said :—]

Your Highness and Gentlemen,—It is with a double pleasure that I rise to acknowledge the cordiality and friendliness of the words which Your Highness has just spoken, for not only has my visit to this interesting and progressive State been in itself a matter of great enjoyment, but there has been the added satisfaction that Your Highness and I have renewed and cemented a hereditary friendship. I am deeply sensible of the appreciative allusion which Your Highness made to my grandfather, and I am glad to think that you were able to look upon him as a sincere and genuine friend of Your Highness' ancestor, Raja Nihal Singh, and of the Princes of India generally. On my part I can only say that I heartily reciprocate the feelings of personal good-will to which Your Highness has given expression, and if at the end of my tenure of office I too am regarded by the Chiefs as an earnest and true friend of theirs I shall feel that my sojourn in India will not have been in vain.

Most of us present here to-night are well aware of the loyal traditions of the Kapurthala State, but I cannot refrain from recalling to you that in the second Sikh War, the Chief Nihal Singh fought on the side of the British armies and received the hereditary title of Raja in recognition of his assistance. Again, Raja Rundhir Singh, G.C.S.I., the grandfather of our host of to-night, rendered valuable aid to the Government of India in 1857. With his troops he helped to hold the Jullundur Doab and with characteristic vigour led his contingent into Oudh in the following year. With his brother, Kunwar Bikram Singh, he remained ten months in the field and himself took part in six actions. In acknowledgment of this help the Government of India reduced the tribute hitherto paid by the State, granted the Chief an adoption *sanad* so that the perpetuity of the dynasty

State Banquet at Kapurthala

might be assured, and bestowed on him the two estates in Oudh which now bring in a substantial revenue

Again, in the last Afghan War 700 of the State troops acquitted themselves in accordance with the traditions of their Chief and of their race, and the Imperial Service Troops again took part in the Tirah campaign of 1897 and gained distinction. Lastly, during recent years, when there has been trouble in other parts of India, the Chief of Kapurthala and his subjects have shown unmistakably that they well have known it and that this State is a field in which it is useless to attempt to sow the seeds of disaffection.

I have said enough to prove, if proof were needed, that the relations that have subsisted between the Kapurthala State and the Government of India have been marked by close friendship and co-operation and that benefits have resulted to both which are ample evidence that their interests have always been identical. It has given me the greatest satisfaction to have had the opportunity of seeing Your Highness' Imperial Service Troops on parade and to be able to bear personal testimony to their efficiency. I congratulate Your Highness on having increased the pay of the men last year—a wise and liberal act which I am informed, has much benefited the regiment, of which I may tell you that I have had consistently good accounts. I am confident that were the need to arise again for their services in the field, they would acquit themselves worthily and bring fresh honour to their State and to their Chief.

At present, happily, India is at peace, and while we can never relax our preparations for war, it is the arts of peace that call for the daily and special consideration of every administrator. Your Highness has responded to the call in a manner worthy of all praise. Sir Louis Dane last April congratulated Your Highness on the success of your administration, and I desire to associate

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myself in this commendation. Your Highness has been ably assisted in these beneficent measures by your Council and the Chief Minister, Mr. French, to whom you have given your support, and I wish to take this opportunity of expressing my appreciation of their work. Your Highness has wisely continued the system of administration set on foot during your minority by the officers lent to the State by the Government. It is a guarantee of the soundness of that system, and must also be a matter of satisfaction to Your Highness, that no less than four of these officers, Sir Mackworth Young, Sir Charles Rivaz, Sir Frederic Fryer and Sir Denzil Ibbetson, were afterwards selected for important Lieutenant-Governorships. The State revenues are rapidly expanding, the various departments are being improved and perfected. The new water supply and the many new public institutions, notably the Rundhir College, which the Lieutenant-Governor has recently opened, have made the capital a town well equipped as regards modern requirements for the health, comfort and moral advancement of the people.

Your Highness, who are yourself a traveller and a writer, has realised the importance of the education of your children to which you have devoted much care and thought, and I am very pleased to have seen something of them during my stay here. I trust that the educational advantages that they have received may be utilised in the service of the State. I have learnt with satisfaction that the terrible afflictions of plague and cholera from which the State has suffered in recent years have now ceased, and that the affairs of the State are entirely prosperous and hopeful. I am sure that under Your Highness' rule and with the advice of Sir Michael O'Dwyer, a friend on whose sagacity and sympathy Your Highness can always confidently rely, the progress begun will be continued and our hopes of prosperity fulfilled.

Banquet at Bikaner.

I will detain you no longer. Before concluding, however, I wish to express Lady Hardinge's regret that she was unavoidably prevented from accepting Your Highness' very kind invitation to visit Kapurthala. I wish also to express my thanks for all the hospitality and kindness Your Highness has shown us during our stay, and for the admirable arrangements for our comfort and enjoyment. Gentlemen, I ask you to join me in drinking to the continued prosperity of the Kapurthala State and to the health of our host, His Highness the Maharaja Sir Jagatjit Singh Bahadur.

BANQUET AT BIKANER.

20th Oct
1913

[His Excellency the Viceroy, accompanied by Her Excellency Lady Hardinge and party arrived at Bikaner on 20th October for a few days' shooting. In the evening of the 20th they motored to the Fort built by Raja Ram Singh in 1588. Dinner was served in the Durbar Hall of the Fort. In proposing Their Excellencies health His Highness the Maharaja said —

Your Excellencies,—A long speech to-night would perhaps be out of place, but I hope Your Excellencies will permit me to say that it has been a source of the greatest possible pleasure to me and to my people to welcome Your Excellencies again to Bikaner this year, and I beg to tender my grateful thanks to Your Excellencies for honouring us with this visit.

Ladies and Gentlemen, I now give you a toast which I know will be honoured with special enthusiasm, the health of Their Excellencies the Viceroy and Lady Hardinge, and may all happiness and good fortune ever attend them.

The Viceroy replied.—]

Your Highness, Ladies and Gentlemen,—First let me thank Your Highness for the extremely kind words in which you have proposed the health of Lady Hardinge and myself, and you, Gentlemen, for the cordial way in which you have accepted the toast.

When His Highness so kindly asked me to come back to Bikaner in the course of my autumn tour he coupled his invitation with an understanding that my visit should

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be of an unofficial character, and I need hardly tell you how readily I jumped at the chance of breathing once more the glorious air of Bikaner and meeting its distinguished ruler in friendly intimacy untrammelled by the exigencies of ceremonial.

I am not going to spoil the effect by making you a set speech to-night, but I cannot let the occasion pass without giving some slight expression to the thoughts that are in my heart of gratitude to our kindly host for all the pleasure that he has taken so much trouble to provide and for the comfort with which he has surrounded us. When I stepped once more upon the friendly soil of Bikaner I felt like a schoolboy out for a holiday, and that is a sensation, let me assure you, that a Viceroy does not often have, at any rate in these latter days; but its very rarity gives an edge to one's appetite, and I really think it would be difficult to find a more delightful combination of circumstances than the present, with a goodly company of friendly faces around me, with the best of sport placed lavishly at one's disposal, and by my side a Chief who has filled to the brim the bright promise of his early days as a conscientious and high-minded ruler, whose word carries weight in the counsels of his brother Chiefs, whose support is as one of the pillars of the Indian Empire, and who has given me the privilege of his true and genuine friendship. I ask you to lift your glasses, Gentlemen, and to drink to the health of His Highness the Maharaja of Bikaner.

STATE BANQUET AT HYDERABAD.

[In the evening of the 30th October, during the Viceroy's stay at 30th Oct. Hyderabad, Their Excellencies attended a banquet given by His Highness the Nizam in the Chau Mahli Palace. The route from the Falaknamah Castle to the palace was brilliantly illuminated, and the palace grounds were lighted with innumerable coloured lamps which made a very pretty effect. Covers were laid at the banquet for 175 1913.]

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guests and His Highness the Nizam's string band played during dinner. After drinking His Majesty the King-Emperor's health, His Highness the Nizam proposed Their Excellencies' health in the following terms :—

It becomes my pleasing duty to propose the health of my honoured guests, Their Excellencies the Viceroy and Lady Hardinge. Most of you will remember that shortly after my late lamented father's death the Viceroy, at great personal inconvenience to himself, visited Hyderabad just a few weeks before the ever to be remembered Coronation Durbar. This visit was paid solely to condole with me in my bereavement, also, to use His Excellency's own words, to stretch out to me the hand of friendship and support on the threshold of the great task that at the time lay before me. Since then, when I visited Simla, it was my privilege to stay at Viceregal Lodge as the guest of Lord and Lady Hardinge. I shall always entertain most pleasant and grateful recollections of the regal hospitality extended to me by Their Excellencies and of the unremitting kindness they showed me on that occasion. As Lady Hardinge was unable to accompany the Viceroy when he first visited Hyderabad it was my earnest desire that Their Excellencies should visit my capital together. I am glad to say this wish of mine has been gratified, and it is now my privilege and my pleasure to accord to them a warm and hearty welcome. But before I proceed further I may be allowed to state how horrified and shocked the whole of India was when we learnt last December of the dastardly and murderous attempt made by an unknown miscreant on the lives of our distinguished guests of this evening. This sad and startling news was received with the greatest consternation and grief by the whole of Hyderabad, and the latest bulletins were eagerly sought and anxiously scanned to ascertain what progress the Viceroy was making towards recovery. All India, including Hyderabad, rejoiced beyond measure when they received the glad tidings that Lord Hardinge was out of danger and would before long be quite himself again. To my mind a merciful and beneficent Providence decreed that the precious life of our Viceroy was to be preserved so that he might be spared to continue the great good he had begun for the benefit and advancement of this vast Empire. And here I would like to avail myself of this opportunity of tendering to Lady Hardinge my sincere tribute of praise and admiration for the calm courage and great presence of mind exhibited on this appalling occasion of great peril and danger. Narrowly escaping death from the bomb thrown

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at her and the Viceroy, realising with a sudden shock the serious nature and extent of the injuries inflicted on her beloved husband, she displayed at this critical juncture the highest qualities of womanhood.

I need not, however, dilate on this painful subject, because as you are all aware, it has formed the theme of an address presented to her by millions of women in India who have borne universal testimony to the facts I have briefly indicated. In the great speech made by His Excellency in this very room some two years ago he was kind enough to tender to me encouragement and valuable advice in connection with the administration of my State. I laid his wise counsel to heart and have endeavoured to act up to it with results that have been beneficial to myself and also, I hope, of some benefit to my State. The selection made by me of Salar Jung Bahadur as my Minister has turned out as satisfactory as I expected it would be. He has upheld and maintained the best traditions of his family, which has given Hyderabad a fairly long line of ministers. He has now been working successfully for over a year in conjunction with the two advisers I have placed with him, and thereby he has added materially to his store of knowledge of affairs and of the business of government. These advisers are Inad-ul-mulk Bahadur and Fari-doon Jung Bahadur, both of whom served with credit and distinction under the present Minister's grandfather, the first Sir Salar Jung, a great and honoured name in the annals of Hyderabad. It does not become me to say anything about the personal part I have taken in the administration of my country. All I wish to state is that I love my work, that I have followed the Viceroy's advice as regards looking into things for myself, and that it is a source of great happiness to me to devote all my energies towards the advancement of my State and to do all in my power to secure the welfare of the millions of people over which it has pleased the Almighty to place me as their ruler. While on this subject I gladly take this opportunity of publicly thanking my personal friend the Hon'ble Colonel Pinhey for the valuable assistance he has always rendered to me whenever I have consulted him in a friendly manner on important matters. His great knowledge of affairs, his wide experience and ripe judgment, have been of considerable help to me. In conclusion, I hope I may be allowed here to give expression to my grateful appreciation of the kindness and consideration His Excellency has invariably extended to the Mahomedan community.

And now, Ladies and Gentlemen, I call upon you all to join me in drinking to the health of Their Excellencies the Viceroy and Lady

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Hardinge. I fervently pray that they may be blessed with long life, happiness and prosperity.

His Excellency replied as follows :—]

Your Highness, Ladies and Gentlemen, -When, just two years ago, I visited Hyderabad to condole with Your Highness on the loss of your lamented father, His Highness the late Nizam, and to convey to Your Highness my greeting and good wishes at the outset of your career, I expressed my hope that our personal friendship and association might furnish a bond of mutual esteem which would be reflected in the nature of the relations subsisting between the Hyderabad State and the Imperial Government. I also ventured to urge upon Your Highness, who was then assuming the reins of government, the observance of two important principles—I advised Your Highness to select wise and trustworthy counsellors, and, having selected, to trust them, and I sought to impress on Your Highness the importance of evincing personal interest in the administration of this great State.

I need say little of the relations between the British Government and the Hyderabad State. For more than a century now their friendship has been unclouded—unruffled by any breath of ill-feeling or distrust. “As things have been they remain” is a saying not of universal application, but we need have no fear that between these two old friends there will be any change, unless perhaps it be in the direction of more complete understanding, intimacy and identity of interest.

His Imperial Majesty, to mark his regard for the historic house of Hyderabad, conferred on Your Highness at the Coronation Durbar the high honour of Knight Grand Commander of the Star of India and recently made you an Honorary Colonel in the British Army. These are the outward signs of the good-will towards your Highness of the King-Emperor, and of us, his servants.

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To turn to Your Highness's relations to your own State, and your 13 million subjects, it is a source of immense gratification to me to learn that you have consistently acted on the two principles which I ventured to recommend to Your Highness's consideration in 1911. For I am assured that you have had the sagacity to select trustworthy officers for high appointment under your Government and that you extend to them your confidence and give due weight to their advice. It is a matter of common knowledge, too, that Your Highness takes keen personal interest in the administration of your own country, to say nothing of your interest in, and generosity towards, those afflicted by calamities elsewhere. I allude to your liberal donations to the relief funds in aid of the sufferers in the Turkish war and in the Palitana floods, and to Lady Hardinge's Hospital and Training School for Women at Delhi. And I would say in passing that if there is one object almost above all others in India worthy of support, it is the extension to Indian women of medical aid, for the alleviation of their sufferings and the diminution of the frightful infant mortality caused by ignorance, neglect and unscientific, unhygienic treatment.

With regard to the affairs of Hyderabad, I learn with satisfaction of an immense and rapid advance in every direction, and I am sure I am right in attributing no small part of this to Your Highness's personal concern in them, to your rapid disposal of business, and to your loyal support of your officials.

I hear that the gigantic surplus in the yearly revenues of the State is being, or is shortly to be, wisely expended in works of great utility which must result in improvement material and moral—in the conditions of life of your many subjects.

Colonel Pinhey tells me of a contemplated expenditure of 2½ crores of rupees on the extension of your railway

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system, which will give your people access to a new port and provide new markets for their produce, of the vast drainage and water-supply scheme in connection with the Musi dam, of reforms in the police and educational departments, of the extension of the co-operative credit system (one of the greatest boons that could be conferred on the indebted cultivator), of the institution of a trained Civil Service, of generous measures of famine relief and of the improved administration and control of the three great Paigah Estates, which had for long been ruined by neglect and mismanagement. Last but not least, the two splendid regiments of Imperial Service Cavalry, which I had the pleasure of seeing two years ago and hope to see again to-morrow, are evidence of the continued support that Hyderabad is giving to this important movement.

I trust that your new Minister, the third Salar Jung, will maintain the high traditions of his family, and that he will prove as strong a support and assistance to Your Highness as his grandfather, the famous Sir Salar Jung, was to his Chief and master.

Lord Curzon, when he visited Hyderabad 11 years ago, expressed the hope that the then Sahibzada would prove a worthy successor to his father, His Highness the late Nizam. The last two years have shown that Your Highness is fully capable of giving complete fulfilment to Lord Curzon's hope, and it is the chief wish of myself and your many friends that the bright promise of your early months of power may blossom into many years of prosperous and beneficent rule.

We have not forgotten the great pleasure that we received from Your Highness's visit to us at Simla a year ago, and I must now thank Your Highness most warmly for the friendly and courteous terms in which you have welcomed Lady Hardinge and myself to your great and interesting capital, for your words of sympathy with

Address from Bijapur Municipality and opening Memorial to late King Edward.

reference to the merciful protection vouchsafed to me by Providence at Delhi last December, and particularly for the warm greeting and generous hospitality which you have extended to us. I need not describe the pleasure and interest we are deriving from our visit, and from the opportunity we are enjoying of renewing and enlarging our personal friendship with Your Highness.

Ladies and Gentlemen, I ask you to raise your glasses and drink to the well-being of the Hyderabad State and to the health and happiness of its Ruler, our host, His Highness the Nizam, Sir Usman Ali Khan Bahadur.

ADDRESS FROM BIJAPUR MUNICIPALITY AND OPENING
MEMORIAL TO LATE KING EDWARD.

[On arrival at Bijapur in the evening of the 2nd November, His Excellency was met at the railway station by Mr. K. N. Kubraji, the Collector, and Mrs. Kubraji, Mr. Baker, the District Judge, Mr. Kennedy, C.S.I., Inspector General of Bombay Police, Mr. Bose, District Engineer, Mrs. and Miss Bose and the Chief of Jath. 2nd Nov. 1913.]

Bijapur is an ancient city founded in the fifteenth century and full of vast and wonderful ruins which the Bombay Government have taken measures to preserve and have made a collection of manuscripts, coins, copper plate inscriptions and other curious and interesting memorials of the past. Their Excellencies first proceeded to inspect the Gol Gumbaz, the tomb of Mumud Adil Shah, which is the largest building in Bijapur, the area of the tomb being considerably larger than the Pantheon. The dome is one of the three largest in the world and quite the largest built on pendentives. Round the dome is a very remarkable whispering gallery, on account of which the tomb is sometimes called the Boli Gumbaz or speaking dome. Their Excellencies then proceeded by motor to a large marquee, where an address of welcome was presented by the Bijapur Municipality, which was as follows:—

May it please Your Excellency,—We, the President and Councillors of the Municipality of Bijapur, on behalf of ourselves and the citizens of Bijapur, beg to offer Your Excellency a most cordial welcome to our city of ancient renown. Our welcome proceeds from the warmest feelings of affection and loyalty, not merely because of

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our high sense of the unique honour of a Viceregal visit, but also by reason of the special satisfaction and jubilation we feel in having in our midst Your Excellency, whose providential escape and recovery from an atrocious outrage our school children and the citizens generally were celebrating with one accord only the other day. We cannot here omit to express our unbounded admiration of the singular fortitude and nobility of mind displayed by Her Excellency Lady Hardinge on that memorable occasion and during the subsequent trying time. While visiting the magnificent relics of a historical past Your Excellency will not fail to observe that modern Bijapur, after a long period of stagnation and decay, is again showing commercial and industrial activity. With the approaching completion of the new waterworks a large expansion of the cotton industry may, we feel, be confidently looked for. Indeed, when we recall our sufferings for the want of water in past years, the Chutnal Tatik Works, which have only become possible by the liberal grant of Rs. 30,000 made by the Government of Bombay to supplement the loan of Rs. 1,76,000, are a boon to the city for which we cannot be sufficiently grateful to the Governments of Bombay and of Your Excellency.

Our Municipality's resources are inadequate to the large area of the ancient city now that our wants are growing every day. While primary education, sanitation and improvements have been receiving our utmost attention, more than half of our schools are yet without suitable house provision. The need of a well devised system of drainage follows closely on the provision of the water supply. It is necessary to provide new roads all over the town to facilitate communication as also to aid in the development of open areas. We therefore welcome the recent resolutions both of Your Excellency's Government and of the Government of Bombay inaugurating a policy of liberal grants in aid of education and sanitation, and we beg leave to mention in this connection that we have made an application to the Local Government for the transfer of the unoccupied open sites within the fort walls to the Municipality, the revenues of which will enable us to lay out the town on sanitary and systematic lines, and we pray that when the subject comes up before Your Excellency's Government it may receive Your Excellency's more favourable consideration.

We feel happy that the deep loyalty and attachment to our late King Edward, Emperor of India, of beloved memory, evinced throughout India have in our district resulted in a worthy and permanent memorial in this park which has been located right in the

Address from Bijapur Municipality and opening Memorial to late King Edward.

centre of the inhabited areas of the city. Future generations of citizens coming to rest here after the day's toil will not fail to bless the soul that loved to soothe the sufferings of humanity in this world. Nothing could be more fitting than that the foundation stone of this royal memorial here should be laid by Your Excellency's hand, and we feel proud that its maintenance has been entrusted to the Municipality. We beg Your Excellency to be pleased to convey to His Most Gracious Majesty the King-Emperor of India the assurance of our deep and sincere loyalty and of our heartfelt gratitude for the genuine love and sympathy His Majesty has ever shown to the millions of his Indian subjects. We beg in conclusion to assure Your Excellencies that the citizens of Bijapur will long treasure the memory of this gracious visit of Your Excellencies, and we fervently pray to the Almighty that Your Excellency and Lady Hardinge may be blessed with long life, full of health and happiness.

The Viceroy, in reply, said :—

Gentlemen,—I thank you very sincerely for the warm-hearted welcome you have given to Lady Hardinge and myself. I rejoice to know that Bijapur is able to show signs of increasing importance and returning prosperity. The splendour of your city's past and the impressive grandeur of her monumental remains more than justify the feelings of pride expressed in your address. Much has already been done to secure your ancient buildings from misuse and decay, but much still remains to be done and I congratulate you and the Government of Bombay on the steps that are now being taken to reserve an open space round all the more important edifices so that they may be provided with a worthy setting and that their beauty may not be marred by unsightly surroundings. The monuments which antiquity has bequeathed to you are indeed worthy of all the attention and care that can be bestowed upon them, not merely because they immortalise a great and powerful dynasty which has long since passed away, but for the sake of their own imposing beauty, and because they are instinct with the vital genius of India, that genius which has expressed itself in so many forms and in the service of so

Address from Bijapur Municipality and opening Memorial to late King Edward.

many creeds and which is as living to-day as it was when these stately memorials of a Moslem power were first called into being. The marvel to me is not that Bijapur should have attracted to it the steps of three Viceroys in succession, but that any Viceroy should be content to leave the shores of India without seeing these imperishable monuments of her greatness. The Government of Bombay have taken the lead in India in introducing legislation to control town-planning in growing towns on western lines. I shall watch with great interest the debates on the Bill, the introduction of which in the local Legislative Council has been sanctioned by the Government of India. The proposals you have before you for promoting town-planning will be greatly facilitated should this Bill become law, and I can assure you that if and when a scheme for this purpose comes before the Government of India it will receive most careful and sympathetic consideration.

I can well understand, in a region so unfortunately liable to drought, what importance attaches to a bountiful water supply, and I congratulate you very heartily upon the near prospect of the completion of your water-works. Incidentally I congratulate you also upon the generous assistance you have succeeded in eliciting from the Bombay Government. You have rightly remarked that a proper drainage system should follow closely upon the installation of an efficient water supply. My Government have during the past three years made grants amounting to Rs. 6 lakhs recurring and Rs. 37½ lakhs non-recurring to the Bombay Government for projects of urban sanitation, and I have no doubt that if you devise a drainage scheme which satisfies the sanitary authorities and make proper efforts to help yourselves in the matter the Bombay Government will deal with you in the same liberal spirit which has marked their attitude towards

Address from Bijapur Municipality and opening Memorial to late King Edward.

your waterworks, while as you yourselves point out they propose to utilise the recurring grant of Rs. 12½ lakhs which the Government of India have placed at their disposal in making a free school building and equipment grants to district and local boards and municipalities whose financial circumstances demand assistance, and I am sure that any application you may make will receive sympathetic consideration at their hands.

I cannot allow this occasion to pass without telling you how deeply I have sympathised with you in the terrible ordeal you have been passing through since June last. For four months the grim spectre of plague has stalked through your streets, and I grieve to know that it has claimed over 300 victims. I believe that the Municipal Commissioners have done what they could to check its ravages by providing hutting materials, and I am hopeful that you have now reached the end of your troubles. The present epidemic has not been so severe as that from which you suffered two years ago, and I am glad to learn that over one-third of your population have been inoculated. I firmly believe that in inoculation lies your best chance of safety, and should your city ever again be threatened, which God forbid, with a similar calamity I sincerely trust that a prompt and universal recourse to this preventive measure may put a speedy end to your danger.

You have done me the honour to ask me to lay the foundation stone of this memorial to our late King-Emperor Edward VII, and that is a task which I very gladly undertake, for as you may know, it was my privilege to be honoured by his personal friendship and to learn at first hand with what great qualities of sagacity and benevolence he was endowed. I am most glad to think that by you, too, his memory is beloved, that you, too, have realised how great an influence for good he was

Address from Municipal Council of Mysore.

to the millions of his subjects, and that you have been moved to select so happy a means to perpetuate his name, so that even after he has gone he may bring a blessing to your citizens. I thank you for your assurance of loyalty and devotion to his gracious Majesty the King-Emperor George V, and I am confident that he will be gratified by your message, which I shall not fail to convey to him. I am deeply touched by the kind expressions you have used towards Lady Hardinge and myself in regard to the deplorable incident that occurred in Delhi in December last, and we are most grateful to all those who helped to give the children of India a happy day as a thanksgiving to that Providence who watched over us in the hour of danger and granted me complete restoration to health, and I thank you once more very heartily for your good wishes and for your extremely kind welcome.

ADDRESS FROM MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF MYSORE

6th Nov.
1918.

[His Excellency the Viceroy arrived at Mysore on the morning of the 6th November. On arrival His Excellency was presented with the following address from the Municipal Council :—

May it please Your Excellency,—We, the President and members of the Mysore City Municipal Council, rejoice at the opportunity afforded to us of offering Your Excellency and Lady Hardinge our most hearty and loyal welcome to this the capital city of the Mysore State. It is with no ordinary pleasure that we greet the representative of His Most Gracious Majesty the King-Emperor of India. The policy of His Majesty's Government towards the Native States has been worthy of the lofty traditions of the great British nation, and has united more closely than ever by ties of sincere gratitude the family of Native States in His Majesty's Indian Empire to the Imperial Throne. We rejoice that, under the wise and benign rule of our beloved Maharaja His Highness Sri Krishnaraja Wadiyar Bahadur, G.C.S.I., and His Highness's illustrious predecessors, the State has been in the enjoyment of the full benefits of an enlightened and progressive administration.

Address from Municipal Council of Mysore.

Your Excellency, it was with profound grief that we learnt of the dastardly attempt at Delhi in December last, and we prayed humbly to the Great Giver of all life that Your Excellency might be speedily restored to health and to the service of the Empire. We are grateful that our prayer has been heard, and we rejoice at the privilege of welcoming Your Excellencies in our midst.

There is no need to assure Your Excellency of our loyalty to the Imperial Throne. We are deeply thankful to Your Excellency and Lady Hardinge for having found time, in the midst of the arduous duties of Your Excellency's exalted office and the cares of a vast Empire, to visit our State, and we hope and pray that Your Excellency's sojourn among us, brief as it will be, may afford Your Excellencies some measure of relief and recreation.

With every assurance of our high respect and sincere wishes for the continued welfare of Your Excellencies.

In reply His Excellency spoke as follows :—]

Gentlemen,—I thank you very sincerely on behalf of Lady Hardinge and myself for the warmth and loyalty of your welcome, and for your kind references to my restoration to health.

It affords us exceptional pleasure to visit Mysore—a State which, on the one hand, deservedly bears so high a reputation for wise and enlightened administration, and, on the other hand, is famous both for its natural beauties, some of which we have already been privileged to see, and for the sites and buildings of historical and archæological interest that it contains.

I am well aware of the attachment of the people of Mysore to their sympathetic and able Ruler; and as you have rightly stated, I need no assurance of their loyalty to the Imperial Throne. And it only remains for me to express to you, once more, my gratitude for the courtesy which has prompted you to present this address, and to tell you how deeply we appreciate the kindly feeling towards us to which it testifies.

ADDRESSES FROM COORG REPRESENTATIVES, COORG
PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION AND NORTH MYSORE, SOUTH
MYSORE AND BABA BUDAN PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

7th Nov. [On the morning of the 7th November His Excellency the
1913. Viceroy received addresses from deputation of the abovenamed
Associations. These were as follows :—

COORG REPRESENTATIVES.

May it please Your Excellency,—We, the undersigned representatives of Coorg, beg to offer Your Excellency and Lady Hardinge our respectful and hearty welcome to the neighbourhood of our province.

We beg to congratulate Your Excellency and Lady Hardinge personally on the miraculous and Providential escape from the dastardly attempt on your valuable lives on the occasion of Your Excellencies' State Entry into the new Capital and on Your Excellency's recovery from the shock and injuries of the diabolical outrage.

The people of Coorg rejoiced at the rumour that our country would have the honour of a visit by Your Excellency; and if it had been realised, it would have given us heartfelt pleasure, not only because we are directly under the Government of India, but also because Your Excellency would have been the first Viceroy and Governor General to visit our picturesque country ever since it came under the British rule. We are, however, aware that owing to want of facilities for travelling by railway, we have to forego such a signal honour. In this connection we may be permitted to submit that the question of a railway communication to Coorg, by linking it with the proposed line which the Mysore Durbar has, we understand, proposed to construct between that province and the West Coast, may receive Your Excellency's kind and favourable consideration.

We take this opportunity of again expressing to Your Excellency that we were proud to receive our beloved King-Emperor and the Queen-Empress in India, and we anticipate a share in the manifold benefits which will undoubtedly accrue from the liberal commands delivered from time to time during His Majesty's sojourn in India.

The educational policy initiated by Your Excellency's Government is certain to result in far-reaching effects in the matter of elementary education. The needs, however, of the province, having

Addresses from Coorg Representatives, Coorg Planters' Association and North Mysore, South Mysore and Baba Budan Planters' Association.

regard to its isolated position, would be better supplied by the establishment of an additional High School in South Coorg and a second grade College at Mercara. This want was represented to Your Excellency's predecessor, Lord Elgin, so far back as 1895. With this development it is hoped that it will be possible to meet the growing needs of secondary education more fully than is the case at present. We humbly trust that it will also be within the scope of the new policy to improve the prospects of the teaching staff, and to secure them an adequate training in order to equip them to meet the altered circumstances of their profession.

We are grateful to Your Excellency's Government for the special grant for the improvement of sanitation, and we are hopeful that such grants will be continued from year to year in order to combat the diseases incidental to our position and rainfall.

In conclusion, we beg that Your Excellency may be pleased to convey to His Majesty the King-Emperor the sentiments of our loyalty and devotion, which will ever remain unshaken.

His Excellency replied as follows :—]

Gentlemen of Coorg,—I am very pleased to have this opportunity of receiving you, and I thank you most sincerely, on behalf both of Lady Hardinge and myself, for your sympathetic references to the attempted outrage at Delhi. We received with much interest the account of the celebrations which were organised in Coorg on the 20th June, and are very grateful to all who devoted so much time and trouble to the children's entertainments on that occasion.

I regret that I have been unable to secure the privilege of being the first Viceroy to visit your beautiful and picturesque country, so well known to the Hindu world as containing the sources of the sacred Cauvery. A Viceroy's tours, as you have recognised, are necessarily dependent, to a large extent, on the factor of communications. As to local improvements in this respect, I am not at present in a position to say anything more definite than that there appears to be reason to hope for some

Addresses from Coorg Representatives, Coorg Planters' Association and North Mysore, South Mysore and Baba Budan Planters' Association.

substantial advance in the not far distant future. The projects which I understand are in contemplation will certainly receive the sympathetic consideration of the Government of India.

I appreciate the reference you have made to the educational policy of my Government; and the capital and recurring grants for this purpose, which we have been able to allocate to your Province during the past two years are, I think you will admit, evidence that we have not lost sight of the interests of Coorg in this matter.

It affords me great satisfaction to know that you are making good progress, more especially in the important direction of educating your girls, whose influence in forming the character of future generations cannot be over-estimated.

The scheme for improving the Mercara High School is still under consideration; but if, as I hope, it eventually comes to fruition, it will mark a substantial advance by providing an excellent residential institution.

The attention of my Government has been drawn to the prevalence of malaria in Mercara and to the large proportion of children affected with spleen diseases who are boarders at the High School. I understand that a scheme for draining swampy areas is being carried out, and the Government of India have made grants amounting to Rs. 36,000 during the past three years for urban sanitary improvement. The governing body of the Indian Research Fund Association will, I am informed, be prepared to give further assistance to any well-considered anti-malarial scheme. A preliminary survey on scientific lines in order to determine the breeding places of the anopheles mosquito is essential to success.

*Addresses from Coorg Representatives, Coorg Planters' Association
and North Mysore, South Mysore and Baba Budan Planters'
Association.*

Preliminary sanction has also been accorded to a scheme for a new jail at Mercara; and various orders have recently been passed, whereby the position and prospects of the subordinate Government services in Coorg have been improved. The Government of India have learnt with satisfaction that the people of Coorg are making strenuous efforts to free the province from the encroachments of lantana, and the large expenditure which Government are incurring with the same object is evidence of their anxiety to assist and encourage a movement of such great local importance.

The liberal attitude of Government in all these matters affords an assurance that the requirements of Coorg will continue to receive their careful attention.

In conclusion, I have to acknowledge your expressions of loyalty and devotion to the King-Emperor, which will be duly communicated to His Majesty. These sentiments are in complete accord with the traditional loyalty of the Coorgs, upon which the Government of India place full reliance.

I thank you, Gentlemen, very warmly for the welcome you have given us, and for the cordial terms in which your address is couched.

COORG PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

[*May it please Your Excellency,—We, the representatives of the planting community of the province of Coorg, which, as Your Excellency is aware, enjoys the proud distinction of being directly under the administration of the Supreme Government, of which Your Excellency is the august head, respectfully offer Your Excellency our humble welcome on your visit to our neighbourhood.*

It would have afforded us, as well as the whole province, much gratification to have had the privilege of welcoming Your Excellency at Mercara, had Your Excellency been pleased to grant us such

Addresses from Coorg Representatives, Coorg Planters' Association and North Mysore, South Mysore and Baba Budan Planters' Association.

an honour, but we recognise the many calls on Your Excellency's valuable time, on which we do not propose now to infringe.

Looking back on former visits of representatives of His Majesty to our neighbourhood, and the deputations which were accorded the honour of presenting addresses, we find these deputations laying their many troubles frankly and confidently before Your Excellency's predecessors, and being always received with courteous consideration and sympathy.

We are glad to be able to inform Your Excellency that many of these past troubles have been allayed, mostly in the course of administrative progress, but our chief and most important one has evaded this, and we would respectfully request Your Excellency's permission to drag it forth again, and present it to Your Excellency's notice. We allude to communications generally and to want of railway communication with the outer world particularly.

We respectfully wish to point out to Your Excellency that the Mysore Government are credited with the intention of making considerable railway extensions within their province—extensions that are likely to approach the frontier of Coorg, and this appears a favourable time to urge Your Excellency to bear in mind our long-felt, and frequently expressed, needs in the matter, and to interest yourself to obtain for us a connection with one of these lines.

A railway to Coorg, preferably one connecting us with an approximate point on the West Coast, would go far towards meeting many of our necessities. With a railway our troubles in the matter of communications generally would disappear.

Very recently difficulties have arisen in regard to the postal service, with which passenger traffic is connected, but we are glad to see these difficulties have been arranged, though apparently only for the time being. The mail contract does not appear to be very attractive, and we humbly pray that the Post Office be moved to make it more so, and be induced to increase the subsidy sufficiently to attract tenders for a motor service, for the carriage of both passengers and mails, which may even be extended to the West Coast ports, Tellicherry and Mangalore, with which our community has extensive business relations.

In this connection it is very necessary to considerably improve the state of the roads, more especially those on the Ghâts and outside the Coorg frontier.

Addresses from Coorg Representatives, Coorg Planters' Association and North Mysore, South Mysore and Baba Budan Planters' Association.

We are already assured of the active support and sympathy of Colonel Sir Hugh Daly, our much respected Chief Commissioner, and we confidently leave the further advancement of our cause in his able hands.

An uneasy feeling is at present prevailing in Coorg that some administrative change in connection with the province is in contemplation. We, therefore, respectfully pray for an assurance that nothing will be done without first consulting the views of those immediately interested.

In conclusion, we are grateful to Your Excellency's Government for the annual grant, for five years, of Rs. 1,500 towards our Scientific Officer's Assistant Fund, and we thank Your Excellency for the gracious reception accorded to us and this our address.

His Excellency replied as follows :—]

Gentlemen of the Coorg Planters' Association,—I thank you for your loyal and dutiful address, and share your regret that I have not been able to receive it within the confines of a province, with the development and prosperity of which the efforts and interests of the planting community have been so long and so closely connected.

I am glad to learn that the administrative problems, to which previous deputations from your Association have invited the attention of other Viceroys, have in many cases been satisfactorily settled. I sympathise with your anxiety regarding the project for a railway to the West Coast, but I can at present only undertake that it will receive the careful and sympathetic consideration which it manifestly deserves.

I am sorry to hear of the difficulties that have arisen in regard to the postal service, but I understand they have been overcome and that a new contract has recently been entered into, under which the post office have considerably increased their subsidy.

A motor service would undoubtedly be a great advantage, but I am informed that up to the present no one has

Addresses from Coorg Representatives, Coorg Planters' Association and North Mysore, South Mysore and Baba Budan Planters' Association.

offered to undertake it upon anything like a reasonable subsidy.

The improvement of roads, both within and without the Coorg border, is, I understand, already receiving attention.

I was very pleased to sanction a modest grant towards the cost of your Scientific Assistant, whose services will, I trust, be of substantial value, not only to the coffee industry, but also in connection with the experiments in tea, rubber, etc., on which I hear that some of your community are engaged.

I will only add that no change in the administration of Coorg is at present in any way under the consideration or contemplation of the Government of India, who, I feel sure, would never proceed to deal with a project of such a nature, unless and until they had taken steps to inform themselves as to the views of all those immediately interested in the matter.

In conclusion, let me thank you, Gentlemen, in all sincerity for the opportunity you have given me of meeting you—I fear at considerable personal inconvenience to yourselves—and for the courteous welcome you have accorded me.

NORTH MYSORE, SOUTH MYSORE, AND BABA BUDAN
PLANTERS' ASSOCIATIONS.

[This address mainly consisted of a prayer for direct railway communication with the West Coast.

His Excellency replied as follows :—]

Gentlemen,—I am greatly obliged to you for your kind words, and regard it as a compliment that you should have been moved to present me with this address.

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Your deputation is the third which has to-day drawn my attention to the importance, in the interests of Mysore and the adjoining country, of railway communication with the West Coast. The subject is one which had already come before me, and I have noted independently the discussions regarding it, which were held in August last, as well as in previous years, at the annual meeting of the United Planters' Association of Southern India. I must content myself with asking you, as I have already asked the deputations from Coorg, to accept my assurance that the project will receive full and sympathetic consideration.

I will only add that I have reason to know that your interests and enterprises are watched with close concern and attention by my host, His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore, and it is a pleasure to me to think that I am only echoing his sentiments when I wish you all success and prosperity.

I am extremely glad to have had this opportunity of meeting you, and again thank you very heartily for your congratulations upon my recovery, and for the warmth of your welcome to Lady Hardinge and myself.

STATE BANQUET AT MYSORE.

[In the evening of the 7th November His Highness the Maharaja 7th Nov.
entertained Their Excellencies the Viceroy and Lady Hardinge and 1913.
a large number of guests to a banquet, which was held in Govern-
ment House. At the conclusion of dinner the Maharaja, accom-
panied by the Yuvaraja, the Dewan and Nobles of State arrived
when His Highness made the following speech:—

Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,—I have long looked forward to the pleasure of welcoming Lady Hardinge and yourself to Mysore. Living as I do far away from Delhi and Simla, it is but seldom that I have the privilege of meeting Your Excellencies, and my gratification at our present meeting is enhanced by the thought that you are my honoured guests and that Your Excellency has come

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among us completely restored to health and strength. I can assure you that nowhere was the indignation and horror deeper than in Mysore at the time of the Delhi outrage which caused you long and painful illness; and that nowhere were the rejoicings at your recovery more sincere and univorsal.

Your Excellency's visit to us comes at a time when Mysore is enjoying the benefits of peace and prosperity, like the rest of India, under your liberal and enlightened administration. A succession of favourable seasons has enabled my Government to direct our attention to the development of the material prosperity of the State by increased expenditure on irrigation and other public works, by extending railway communications, by promoting education and encouraging industries.

My State is liberally provided with institutions for associating the people with the policy and activities of my Government. The Representative Assembly, now a long-established institution, is carrying on its useful purpose of bringing the needs and grievances of the people to the notice of Government and keeping the latter in touch with public opinion. In order to bring the people into still closer touch with the administration and to cultivate independence of thought and action, my Government have recently established an Industrial and Economic Conference, with separate committees for Industries, Education and Agriculture. The duties of the Conference are deliberative and advisory and the whole idea is to train the people to think, to act and, above all, to originate. I foresee a very useful future before the Conference, working hand in hand with the Government Departments, which correspond to its three principal branches, and it has already done valuable work in investigating certain practical schemes of development.

I have recently sanctioned measures to strengthen the representative element in our Local Legislative Council and to associate the leading men of the country, to some extent, in the work of the administration by conferring on them, subject to proper safeguards, the privileges of Budget discussion and interpellation. These measures have been welcomed by my subjects and I have no doubt will tend to promote their prosperity and the good government of the State.

Education, which is the root of all progress, is receiving its due share of attention, and we are endeavouring to follow Your Excellency's generous policy of fostering education in all grades, Primary, Technical and University. We have sanctioned a largely increased grant for Primary Schools and for educational buildings and we

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have recently introduced a scheme for technical and commercial education. We have also passed a Bill framed on cautious lines to legalise compulsory education in selected areas. Our most pressing needs are the extension of Primary Schools, the provision of properly trained teachers and the improvement of female education.

Within the past year or two, my Government have taken steps to improve the prospects of officers of all the principal Departments of the State, and we are considering seriously the whole question of raising the morale of our public services by introducing a system of careful recruitment, by giving selected young officers of all Departments a training in Europe and by insisting on high character and efficiency. *

The Kannambadi Reservoir which is now being constructed will secure the supply of electric power to the Kolar Gold Fields and will also safeguard our irrigation under the Cauvery, besides appealing to the imagination by converting a portion of the valley and bed of that river into one of the largest artificial lakes in the world.

For many years past, railway extension in Mysore has been at a standstill, and we have long realised that we must go forward and extend our railways in such a way as to provide internal means of communication all over the State and at the same time to form useful and important links with the main lines of railway in the surrounding British territory. I am confident that Your Excellency's Government will view our railway policy with sympathy and will give your support to projects for extending through communication into British territory.

I have mentioned all these evidence of progress because I feel that Your Excellency should be assured that my Government are not standing still but doing their utmost to maintain the high standard of administration for the good of the people bequeathed to us by the British Commission 32 years ago, and to give the best practical proof of our loyalty to the King-Emperor and our appreciation of the benefits of British rule and the sympathetic policy of Your Excellency's Government towards the Native States of India.

I take this opportunity of acknowledging the unvarying sympathy and good-will which Your Excellency has manifested from time to time towards myself and my State; and I must also express my grateful thanks to the Government of India for having sent as Resident to Mysore an officer of such sterling qualities as the Hon'ble Sir Hugh Daly, whose relations with me and my Government have always been most friendly and cordial.

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In conclusion, I can only assure Your Excellency and Lady Hardinge once more of a very hearty welcome to Mysore and to express the hope that your approaching visit to the Kheddah Camp will afford you a much needed rest from the arduous duties of your high office, and that Your Excellency will carry away with you pleasant memories of your visit to my State.

Ladies and Gentlemen, it only remains for me to propose the health of Their Excellencies Lord and Lady Hardinge, and I feel sure that you will respond warmly to the toast.

In reply the Viceroy spoke as follows :—]

Your Highness, Ladies and Gentlemen,—I must in the first place thank Your Highness for the cordial terms in which you have proposed the health of Lady Hardinge and myself, and for the sentiments of friendship and goodwill to which you have given expression. I need hardly say that I sincerely and warmly reciprocate those friendly sentiments, and that I share with Your Highness your regret that Delhi and Simla are so far from Mysore that the opportunities we have of meeting each other are rare. I must thank your Highness for the kind way in which you have alluded to my Providential escape at Delhi last year and to my restoration to health, which is now mercifully complete.

Lord Curzon, when he visited Mysore 11 years ago to install Your Highness on the *gadi*, spoke of the splendid opportunities of the future then opening before Your Highness. To-day, as we look round, we see on every side ample evidence that these opportunities have been turned to good account. On every side there are signs of material and moral progress and development, the result of good administration.

The State has been blessed by Providence with exceptional natural resources, and these are being utilised to the advantage of its inhabitants by every device of human ingenuity and skill.

The wonderful success of the electric power scheme is almost too well-known a topic for me to dilate on, but I

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cannot help expressing my congratulation to Your Highness on the facts, of which I have recently been apprised, that the net profits to date since the inception of the scheme have practically reached the total of the capital outlay, and that the royalty received by Your Highness's Government last year amounted to no less than 16 lakhs of rupees.

The State consists, however, mainly of agricultural land, and Your Highness's Government has, as one would have expected, devoted particular care and attention to its development, on the two main lines of irrigation and the extension of communications. As an example I may mention the success of the Kannambadi water scheme, which has not only contributed to an extension of irrigated land, but also to an increase of electric power at Sivasamudram.

I trust that the arbitration now in progress between the Mysore State and the Madras Government with regard to the waters of the Cauvery will result in a settlement satisfactory to both parties; and though it cannot be hoped that either side will obtain *all* the water it may desire, I am confident that the arbitrator's decision will be just, and that, whatever is decided, it will be a source of satisfaction to have brought this difficult question to a definite conclusion.

As regards communications, I am glad to hear of the active part that the Mysore Durbar are taking in the construction of railways to open up the State and thereby to secure markets for their cultivators' produce and the expansion of trade. This is a movement which is making great strides in Native States in all parts of India, and they have in this policy my strong support.

In such developments it is of course impossible to avoid occasional difficulties. Vested interests claim that they should not suffer, and it is but just that these claims should receive reasonable consideration. I have every

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confidence, however, that it will be possible to arrange for the construction of the lines which Your Highness's Government desire to make on terms which will be acceptable to all the parties interested.

There are other ways also in which Your Highness has taken thought for your peoples' welfare. I learn with great satisfaction that the Co-operative Credit movement has expanded and developed, and is bringing relief to the indebtedness of the peasant, that an Institute of Public Health and a School of Hygiene have been established, in which Sanitary Inspectors are receiving training, and that an industrial survey of the State has been undertaken, with good results in the form of the improvement of various indigenous industries. This is the true *Swadeshi* movement, and I wish it all success.

I have spoken hitherto only of the material progress of the State, but Your Highness has realised that it is not on this alone that true well-being depends. The liberality of your policy is well known, and the Representative Assembly, strengthened by the important reforms which have just been introduced and the Economic Conference will, I trust, fulfil one of the chief purposes of their existence and, as Your Highness hopes, train your people to think, to act and to originate.

I must congratulate Your Highness, too, upon your enlightened educational policy. Under your fostering care education is making rapid progress; and springing from the annual Conference of 1911, your Government have recently sanctioned a generous programme, which includes provision for a large extension of primary education, measures to supply teachers possessed of higher qualifications, increased grants for female education, and an experimental Boarding House for Panchamas at Mysore. At the same time a special Committee, assembled in 1910, to consider the improvement of industrial

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education, is bearing fruit in schemes for a Technical Institute at Mysore, and a Mechanical Engineering School and a Commercial School at Bangalore, where progress will be made on tentative lines.

I am glad that the vexed question of the revenues of the Assigned Tracts was last year decided, and I am sure that it must be a source of satisfaction to Your Highness to have arrived at a settlement, the more so as an examination of the accounts shows, so I understand, a balance due to the Durbar of nearly 40 lakhs of rupees.

It is hardly necessary for me to speak of the relations between the Government of India and the Mysore Durbar. They have always been intimate and friendly, and their harmony will, I am confident, never be disturbed, certainly so long as Your Highness is on the *gadi* and has, as Resident, an officer of Sir Hugh Daly's wisdom and sympathy.

I have now the pleasant duty of making an announcement which it is as gratifying to me to deliver as I trust it will be to Your Highness to receive. Some four months ago Your Highness wrote me a letter in which you took exception to certain features in the Instrument of Transfer of 1881 under which the Government of Mysore was restored to Your Highness's father, and you urged that the document should be revised both in substance and in form in such a manner as to indicate more appropriately the relation subsisting between the British Government and the State of Mysore.

After very careful consideration of the question I have decided, with the concurrence of His Majesty's Secretary of State for India, to substitute for the Instrument of Transfer a new Treaty which will place the relations between us on a footing more in consonance with Your Highness's actual position among the Feudatory Chiefs of India. His Majesty's Government in

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accepting my proposal have observed that Your Highness's views on this question were stated with much force and moderation, and that they derive additional weight from the high character and reputation which Your Highness has always borne. With this observation I desire to associate myself in the very fullest degree, and I look on it as a particularly happy circumstance that it should have fallen to my lot to convey to Your Highness on this auspicious occasion so striking a proof of the esteem and regard in which you are held by those responsible for the Government of this great Empire.

Finally I wish to express the happiness it has been to me to have again had the pleasure of meeting Your Highness's brother the Yuvaraj, and I hope I may have many more opportunities of renewing my acquaintance with him while I am in India.

I need not say how much Lady Hardinge and I are enjoying our visit to Mysore, or how much we are looking forward to such an interesting experience as the Khedduh that Your Highness is so kindly going to provide, but I must thank Your Highness for all the friendly and generous hospitality you have shown us, and say how much we appreciate all that we have seen and all that has been done for us.

Ladies and Gentlemen, I ask you to join me in drinking the health of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore, wishing him and his State all possible prosperity.

[At the conclusion of His Excellency's speech His Highness rose again and thanked the Viceroy in the following words :—

Your Excellency,—It is difficult for me to express in words my gratitude for the gracious and generous act of Your Excellency's Government in granting a Treaty to Mysore to replace the Instrument of Transfer under which Mysore was restored to my father's rule 32 years ago. I can only assure Your Excellency that I value very highly not only the gift of the Treaty itself, but the trust and confidence in my Government which the grant of the Treaty implies.

Address from Bangalore Municipality

I could wish for no greater reward for my efforts to maintain a high standard of administration than the gracious words of praise and encouragement which have fallen from Your Excellency's lips. Not only will the Treaty be welcomed by all classes of my people, but it will draw still closer the bond of gratitude and loyalty which has always united us to the British Government and will be regarded as a signal proof of the sympathy and generosity which have always marked the policy of the Supreme Government towards the Native States.]

ADDRESS FROM BANGALORE MUNICIPALITY.

[Their Excellencies the Viceroy and Lady Hardinge arrived at 19th Nov. Bangalore on the morning of the 19th November, and were met on the platform by Sir Hugh Daly, the Resident, who introduced Sir John Nixon, Commanding the Southern Army, General Wapshare, Commanding the Bangalore Brigade, and the Dewan of Mysore. After Sir John Nixon had presented his personal staff the First Assistant (Mr. W. Burton) to the Resident, Major O. Grady, Brigade Major to General Wapshare and Major Rankin, commanding the escort, were presented by Sir Hugh Daly. The senior military officers of the Bangalore Brigade were then introduced in turn by General Money, Chief Staff Officer to Sir John Nixon, and the principal officers of the Mysore State and certain Mysore Government officials by the First Assistant to the Resident. As soon as the introductions were completed His Excellency inspected the guard of honour of the 2nd Battalion (Q. O.), the Cameron Highlanders, which was drawn up on the platform, and then proceeded with Her Excellency to a *pandal* to receive an address delivered by Mr. Cox, I.C.S., on behalf of the Municipal Commissioners of the Civil and Military Station of Bangalore, which was as follows:—

May it please Your Excellency,—On behalf of all classes of the community of the Civil and Military Station of Bangalore, we desire to offer to Your Excellency and Lady Hardinge a sincere and hearty welcome to this part of the Empire, and at the same time to express our regret that the time at Your Excellencies disposal will not allow a longer stay here than a few days.

Looking back a few years we see that, in the address of welcome presented to Lord Curzon in 1900, this station was referred to as a sanatorium and a resort for European Government pensioners. In welcoming Earl Minto in 1909 the station was again alluded to as a health resort.

Address from Bangalore Municipality.

In reiterating what was said on those occasions, we have only to add that the popularity of the station is spreading far and wide. The problem we have to solve is how, with our limited resources, to maintain the reputation of the place as a sanitarium. We must acquaint Your Excellency with the fact that our hospitals, our markets, our water-supply and our drainage are defective and insufficient for the demands of a steadily-growing population; the present Municipal revenues will not admit of large expenditure on works of any magnitude, however important or urgent they may be; and we see no prospect of augmenting our revenues in any way, but we venture to say that we are confident that, as in the past, so in the future, the Government of India will come to our aid.

We desire to acknowledge with gratitude the favour which have been shown to us in recent years by way of grants by the Government of India for the improvement of our sanitation, water-supply and education, especially for the grant this year of four lakhs of rupees for sanitation and for the recurring grant of half a lakh for the same object. At the same time we would respectfully request that we may be relieved of the loan of Rs. 80,000 advanced to us in July 1911, by having this amount treated as a free grant, and that the payments which we have been obliged to make to the Mysore Durbar on account of shortage in our own water-supply, amounting to Rs. 23,968, may be refunded to us.

We desire also to request that, whatever the ultimate decision may be as to the disposal of the accumulated surplus revenues of the Assigned Tract in future years, it may be so utilised for the benefit of the station that no considerable surplus of income over expenditure may accrue—a surplus which so far from benefiting the Imperial Exchequer is under an agreement handed over to the neighbouring State of Mysore.

We respectfully submit that in particular we may be relieved of the imposition of income-tax, that the military contribution to our annual revenues may be increased, and that Government buildings may be made liable for the levy of rates and taxes. We believe that these matters are now pending with the Government of India for consideration.

We would also request that the Municipal Dispensaries, which are at present maintained by us, at an annual cost of Rs. 9,200, may be placed under the maintenance of the Government of India.

We should also respectfully represent that the feelings of the community are in favour of a separation of the political and judicial administration of the station and of vesting the highest appellate

Speeches by H. E. Lord Hardinge of Penshurst.

Address from Bangalore Municipality.

jurisdiction in the Madras High Court, while at the same time, in order to raise the status of the District Judge, it is felt that the old system which existed until 1891 of having a District and Sessions Judge might with advantage be resumed.

This address of welcome would be incomplete if we failed to mention with what manifestations of joy and thankfulness the 20th June last was observed in that station, and how glad the whole population—old and young—were of the opportunity afforded them of celebrating in a fitting manner Your Excellency's return to health and strength after the dastardly outrage on Your Excellency's life.

In conclusion, we pray that, in the future when Your Excellency and Lady Hardinge look back on your sojourn in India, the visit—regrettably short though it was—to the Civil and Military Station of Bangalore may be remembered as one of the brightest episodes of your stay in this vast continent.

His Excellency made the following reply :—]

*Gentlemen of the Municipal Commission of the Civil and Military Station,—*I thank you, both for Lady Hardinge and myself, for your welcome, and can assure you that we share your regret that time will not permit of our making a longer stay at Bangalore, the popularity of which as a sanitarium and a health resort is well-known.

I shall instruct the Resident to examine the various requests and requirements which are made or mentioned in your address, and any recommendations which he may find himself able to make in these matters will receive very careful consideration.

I note with much satisfaction your acknowledgment of the assistance which the station has already received from the Government of India, and which according to my information has been given with no niggardly hand. The special grants for sanitation and education during the past $2\frac{1}{2}$ years exceed, I believe, 8 lakhs of rupees, without reckoning the recurring grant of half a lakh for sanitation, or the increase of nearly Rs. 10,000 a year, which has recently been sanctioned in the expenditure

Address from Bangalore Municipality.

on the civil hospitals. The ordinary grants-in-aid for education have recently averaged over $1\frac{1}{4}$ lakhs a year. In earlier years a similar liberality was shown, notably in connection with the water supply and the jewel filters, towards the capital cost of which no contribution was required from the Municipality. Their proportional share of the capital cost, in the case of the water supply alone, would, I understand, have exceeded 11 lakhs.

I mention these facts in order to show that the Government of India have always been ready to do as much as appeared to be legitimately right to further the interests of the station, and as an indication that reasonable requests will receive sympathetic treatment in the future. You will recognise that in dealing with the question of the provision of funds the Government of India must have regard not only to the demands of other communities in India, but also to the special liberality with which Bangalore has been treated in the past. As to the question of the disposal of the surplus revenues of the Assigned Tract the Resident has, I believe, recently given you an explanation which will, I trust, have removed from your minds any possible misunderstanding as to the extent with which the Commission are concerned with this question.

As regards judicial administration, you are aware that, in all criminal proceedings connected with European British subjects residing in Bangalore, appellate jurisdiction already vests in the High Court of Madras. For the rest, the information which I possess indicates that the changes which you suggest might not be for the convenience or interests of litigants while they would involve an increase of expenditure for which there appears to be at present scarcely sufficient justification.

Lady Hardinge and I were greatly touched by the remarkable manifestation in Bangalore on the 20th

Laying Foundation Stone of New Young Men's Christian Association Building at Bangalore.

June, when the assembly of children, under arrangements made by Committees representing both the City and the Civil and Military Station, equalled, if it did not exceed, the gatherings in any other similar centre in India on that day. I am very glad to have this opportunity of publicly thanking all who worked so hard and so efficiently for the success of that celebration. The circumstance gives an additional interest to our visit to Bangalore, which we were very pleased to be able to include in our tour.

LAYING FOUNDATION STONE OF NEW YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION BUILDING AT BANGALORE.

[After attending a garden party given by the Dewan of Mysore 19th Nov. on the afternoon of the 19th November, His Excellency the Viceroy 1913. proceeded to lay the foundation stone of the above building.

On arrival at the site Their Excellencies were received on arrival by General Wapshare and his staff who conducted them to their seats on a *dais* close to the foundation stone. There were also present on the *dais* Sir John and Lady Nixon, the Rev. H. Hacking, B.A., Mrs. Wapshare, General Money, Mrs. Lawrenson, Y.M.C.A., Mr. Callan, Y.M.C.A., and His Excellency's personal staff. A guard-of-honour of the 108th Infantry under the command of Captain Waller was drawn up to the south of the entrance drive and received Their Excellencies as they alighted with a royal salute. The proceedings opened with a Collect read by the Rev. H. Hacking, the Y.M.C.A. Chaplain, after which General Wapshare read the following address to His Excellency :—

May it please Your Excellency,—We, the directors and members of the Young Men's Christian Association of Bangalore, desire to express our gratitude for your presence with us on this auspicious occasion. This evidence of your interest in the work we are doing and planning to do, especially for the men of the British Army, is most encouraging and strengthens us in our purpose to carry forward the work to a high state of efficiency. From its small and very simple beginning in London the Young Men's Christian Association has grown into a great world organisation and has demonstrated

Laying Foundation Stone of New Young Men's Christian Association Building at Bangalore.

improve on, what His Highness then said as to the general value of the training which such institutions provide. In my capacity therefore of Patron of the National Council of the Young Men's Christian Association in India and Ceylon, it affords me particular pleasure to be able to lay the foundation stone of this the first building to be erected in India by the Association in the interests of the British soldier. I am specially in sympathy with what has been said in the address as to the desirability of affording opportunities to the soldier, while in the Army, to train himself for the occupations of civil life, and I agree that this is a matter of true Imperial interest.

Perhaps some of you have read Kipling's ballad "Back to the Army Again" and remember the lines—

A man of four-an'-twenty that
'Asn't learned of a trade—
Beside "Reserve" agin him—
E'd better be never made.

They contain a reproach to our system, which every one who has at heart the interests of England and England's soldiers would rejoice to see removed, and we all owe a great debt of gratitude to the Young Men's Christian Association for the experiments they contemplate making in this institution in the direction of giving men technical instruction, such as will put them in the way of earning a decent livelihood after they leave the Army, and I feel confident that full advantage will be taken of such exceptional opportunities.

The project has evidently been very carefully prepared. The plans and the general arrangement for the grounds seem to me to be excellent, and the institution will, I anticipate, serve, as I understand it is intended to serve, as a model for similar institutions in other large cantonments in India.

Presentation of Colours to 101st Grenadiers at Bangalore.

I have heard a good deal of the work done by Mr. Cullan among the troops, especially in camp, and I feel confident that you have in him a man exceptionally well qualified to give effect to the general scheme of this institution, which will, with the benefit of his guidance, commence its career under the happiest auspices. I hope and believe that the ceremony which I am now about to perform may be symbolical of a great step forward in making the life of our soldiers more happy and more useful alike for themselves and their country.

I have now great pleasure in laying the foundation stone of this building.

PRESENTATION OF COLOURS TO 101ST GRENADIERS AT
BANGALORE.

[A review of the Bangalore Brigade was held on the morning of 20th Nov. 1913. His Excellency and staff, accompanied by Sir Hugh Daly, General Sir John Nixon and his staff, rode out from the Residency to the saluting base, on arrival at which His Excellency received a royal salute. The Bangalore Boy Scouts formed in line on either side of the saluting base. After the royal salute had been given His Excellency inspected the brigade, riding past the troops with General Wapshare, and returned to the saluting base. The next ceremony was the presenting of new colours to the 101st Grenadiers under the command of Colonel Cunningham. This regiment formed up in line in front of the brigade, while an escort with the old colours preceded by the band marched past the regiment at the slow march, returning between the ranks, which had taken open order. As soon as the escort had resumed its place on the right of the line the new colours were placed against six drums in front of the Viceroy and the regiment formed three sides of a square. His Excellency then dismounted and made the following speech :—]

Colonel Cunningham, Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers and Sepoys of the 101st Grenadiers,—It gives me great pleasure to be able to present you on this occasion

Presentation of Colours to 101st Grenadiers at Bangalore.

with your new colours. The 101st Grenadiers bears a distinguished record covering over a century and a quarter of the history of British rule in India. Raised in 1778 by Captain Stewart, the Regiment first saw active service with the British force, which, in 1779, proceeded to Poona for the restoration to the *gadi* of the ex-Peshwa Raghunath Rao. In this expedition the regiment suffered severely and behaved with great gallantry. We next hear of the regiment, then known as the 8th Bombay Battalion, being present in 1780 at the storming of Dubhoi and Ahmedabad, followed, within a very few years, by their participation in the operations of Generals Meadows and Matthews in Malabar, where, at the battle of Pamiani, as is stated, "The 8th Battalion showed themselves equal to any troops in courage, coolness and discipline." Next came the heroic defence of Mangalore in 1783-84, in which the 8th participated with that distinguished Corps, the "Black Watch," whose splendid example they successfully emulated. As a reward for their gallant conduct on this occasion, the title of "The Bombay Grenadiers" with the badge of the "White horse" were conferred on the regiment—distinction of which you are justly proud. The Grenadiers next formed part of Lord Cornwallis's besieging force in the first siege of Seringapatam in 1792 and joined in the expedition to Ceylon in 1795. Operations in Guzerat and Cambay followed, and the Grenadiers assisted at the capture of the Fort of Baroda in 1800, and in the assault on the hill stronghold of Pawangarh shortly afterwards. The regiment next served with distinction at the first siege of Bhurtpur under Lord Lake in 1805. After various minor operations in Kathiawar and Malwa, the Grenadiers then took part in the assault of Asirgarh in 1819. Now followed a long period of comparative peace until, in 1838, the Grenadiers embarked at Bombay as a unit of Sir John Keane's "Army of the Indus," which dealt with

Presentation of Colours to 101st Grenadiers at Bangalore.

the wild tribes of the Sind frontier, who harassed the communications of our forces then in Afghanistan. In August 1840 a detachment under Major Clibborn suffered heavily in an attempted relief of the Fort of Kahun, all ranks displaying great fortitude and bravery. Two years afterwards the Grenadiers were present with the force which, under Sir C. Napier, defeated the Amirs of Sind at Meeanee, and during this action captured one of the enemy's standards. Shortly afterwards the regiment took a gallant part in the battle of Hyderabad, followed by operations against the Waghers of Guzerat. In 1860 and in 1865 the regiment was fighting against the Arab tribes in the vicinity of Aden. During the 2nd Afghan War of 1878-80, the regiment, after a long tour of harassing duty on the Quetta line, marched to Kandahar in March 1880, and subsequently lost over half their strength in the disastrous action of Maiwand, where, forced by circumstances to retreat, the Grenadiers did so, as is recorded of them "slowly and sullenly, turning round every now and then firing to the front."

From 1885 to 1887 the regiment took part in the first phase of the operations in Burma. Finally the operations in Somaliland in 1902—04 saw the Grenadiers again on field service, and two of its British officers won the V.C. during this expedition.

Grenadiers! You have a fighting record of disciplined valour and dogged courage displayed on many a hard-fought field: a record of which any regiment may well be justly proud. From the early days of British rule in India until now, you have stoutly and gallantly upheld the honour of the British Army, as well as its best traditions. Arduous service in most parts of our Eastern dominions has been willingly and cheerfully borne by you, upheld by your fine *esprit de corps*, and has served to weld you into the fine regiment I see before

Unveiling Statue of the late Sir K. Sheshadri Iyer at Bangalore.

me. It is a source of great pride and satisfaction to me to be here to-day and, in presenting you with these new colours, to be able to congratulate you on nearly a century and a half of faithful and loyal service uncomplainingly rendered to your Sovereign. With the greatest confidence I make over to you the sacred trust of these new colours, which are emblematic of the safety, honour and welfare of our great Empire, which you, as a well-tried unit of that Empire's land forces, will, I am convinced, ever give your lives to defend.

UNVEILING STATUE OF THE LATE SIR K. SHESHADRI
IYER AT BANGALORE.

20th Nov. [His Excellency the Viceroy unveiled this statue on the morning
1913. of the 20th November.

His Excellency was received by the President and Members of the Committee and conducted to a pandal close to the statue, where an address was read by the President, Sir V. P. Madhava Rao, C.I.E., which was as follows :—

May it please Your Excellency,—We, the President and Members of the Executive Committee of the Sir K. Sheshadri Iyer Memorial Fund, beg leave to offer our heartfelt thanks to Your Excellency for your gracious condescension in taking part in the ceremony which this large gathering is here assembled to witness.

Your Excellency's illustrious predecessor, Earl Curzon of Kedleston, in his memorable speech at His Highness the Maharaja's Installation Durbar, made special reference to the remarkable career of Sir Sheshadri Iyer, K.C.S.J., who "for 18 years wielded an authority that was a reflex of his powerful character and abilities and that left its mark upon every branch of the administration." His Excellency, in concurrence with Their Highnesses the Maharani Regent, C.I., and the Maharaja, favoured the erection of a Memorial to Sir Sheshadri Iyer and emphasized the view that "the deeds and services of great men should be honoured by public commemoration in the places where they served, not merely as a posthumous compliment to themselves but as an example and stimulus to others." He thought that "Sir Sheshadri Iyer belonged to that class of great native statesmen, whom the system and opportunities of Native

Unveiling Statue of the late Sir K. Sheshadri Iyer at Bangalore.

States sometimes bring to the front and who, in circumstances such as those that prevailed during his time in Mysore, find the occasion for conferring enduring benefits upon the State they serve." In bearing eloquent testimony to Sir Sheshadri Iyer's rare ability, breadth of view, and far-seeing statesmanship, Sir Donald Robertson observed that "they had only to look round in Mysore to see evidence on all sides of his masterful powers of administration."

Indeed, the career of the great man, whose régime was fruitful of the happiest results to the people of Mysore and whose memory we are honouring here to-day, was scarcely paralleled in the annals of Modern India. After a service of 32 years, 18 of which were spent in the responsible office of Dewan, Sir Sheshadri Iyer retired on the 18th of March 1901. In bidding him farewell, Her Highness the Maharani Regent, C.I., placed on record "her high appreciation of the invaluable services rendered by this distinguished statesman," and observed that "his vigorous personality had impressed itself on all the important departments of the State and that the many reforms which have brought the Mysore administration up to a high level of efficiency are attributable in great part to his talents, forethought and resourcefulness." Sir Sheshadri Iyer did not unfortunately live long to enjoy his well-earned rest, for he passed away within a few months of his retirement, to the great grief of all who had fondly hoped he had before him a long lease of leisured life with perfect quiet and serene happiness.

This movement, started under distinguished auspices, was enthusiastically taken up by the public and liberal subscriptions flowed in, not only from the people of Mysore but also from a large number of Princes, eminent Statesmen and leaders of Society, both in India and in England, all of whom had nothing but the utmost admiration for the great man and the warmest praise for the proposed Memorial.

Our respectful acknowledgments are due to our beloved Maharaja, who by his warm interest and ready sympathy, has in no small measure contributed to the success of the movement. Thanks to a munificent donation from His Highness, a generous grant from His Highness' Government and liberal subscriptions from an appreciative public, the Memorial has now become an accomplished fact. A spacious Hall has been completed and a statue erected in front of it. A suitable library will it is hoped soon materialize.

It only remains for us now to beg Your Excellency to unveil the statue of the great Statesman to whose abilities and labours is largely due the flourishing condition in which we find Mysore to-day.

Unveiling Statue of the late Sir K. Sheshadri Iyer at Bangalore.

His Excellency in reply said :—]

Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen,—It gives me very great pleasure to assist at this ceremony to commemorate the name of the late Sir K. Sheshadri Iyer who, for so many years, held the high office of the Dewan of Mysore. I had not the privilege of his personal acquaintance, but that he was a man of notable qualities and strong character is testified by the record of his labours during the long period he was associated with the administration of this State. For his work is writ large on every page of Mysore history of that time.

It is sometimes said that the *Pax Britannica* has taken all the romance out of Indian life, and it is true that the old opportunities of carving with the sword a way to fortune and glory are gone, I hope never to return, but when I think of the distinguished Indian who is my colleague and the Indian Members of other Councils, both in India and at home, not to speak of the many eminent men who are at the head of various professions and industries, I doubt whether there is very much truth in the saying I have quoted.

Sir Sheshadri himself rose from the very lowest rungs of the official ladder; and after he had climbed it step by step, his outstanding merit marked him out for the office of Dewan, and that at a time when the task was not an easy one, for the country had not yet begun to recover from the severest famine of the last half century. Yet with the support and under the wise guidance of His Highness the late Maharaja Sri Chamarajendra Wadiar Bahadur, he was able to achieve much that reflects credit on Indian statesmanship. The revenues of the country which stood at 100 lakhs when he took charge had reached the high figure of 180 lakhs when he laid down office. Agriculture and trade flourished and every department of the State felt the guiding hand of the Chief Minister.

Unveiling Statue of the late Sir K. Sheshadri Iyer at Bangalore.

Large public works designed to protect the country against the effects of famine were undertaken and many parts of the country were opened out by roads and communications. The educational opportunities of the people were enlarged and the facilities for medical relief multiplied. While the two capital cities of Bangalore and Mysore owe much to Sir Sheshadri Iyer for the part he played in bringing into existence the excellent systems of water-supply which they now enjoy.

But the most remarkable achievement of all was his conception and execution, with the skilled assistance of Major Joly deLothinière, of the Cauvery Power Installation Scheme which, besides bringing in handsome revenues to the State coffers, is contributing materially to its industrial development. It is gratifying to me to learn that His Highness's Government have further developed, and are still developing, the scheme initiated by him, and I have every hope that the results will be of ever increasing value for the promotion of the material wealth and prosperity of the country.

Sir Sheshadri Iyer has thus left a record behind him which marks him out, with Sir Salar Jung of Hyderabad, Raja Sir Dinkar Rao of Gwalior and Sir T. Madhava Rao of Indore and Baroda, as a member of that group of Indian statesmen, whose fame has spread far beyond the borders where they laboured so faithfully and so well, and whose names will remain as a lasting example to their successors.

I am proud to have the privilege of unveiling the statue of such a man as this, and it only remains for me to congratulate the Memorial Committee on the conclusion of their labours, and to express the hope that this statue may long serve to bring to the minds of future generations the memory of a great Indian statesman.

ADDRESS FROM KOLAR GOLD FIELD MINING BOARD.

21st Nov. 1913. [His Excellency the Viceroy left Bangalore on the 20th November on a visit to the Kolar Gold Fields, arriving early on the morning of the 21st at Bowringpett. His Excellency was received by Mr. Arthur Gifford, Chairman of the Mining Board, and drove nine miles to the Fields, where he breakfasted with Mr. and Mrs. Gifford. A guard-of-honour of the Kolar Gold Fields Rifle Volunteers was drawn up outside Mr. Gifford's house. This corps is famous for being a very efficient one, with some 700 members, and for the numerous shooting trophies it has won. His Excellency presented long service medals to Sergeant-Major Rodway and Sergeant Stewart.

The following address was then presented to the Viceroy :—

May it please Your Excellency,—We, the members of the Kolar Gold Field Mining Board, beg to be permitted to extend to Your Excellency a most respectful and hearty welcome to the Mines, and to offer on behalf of the Directors and Managers of the several Companies in London their very sincere thanks for the honour which Your Excellency's visit to-day confers upon the industry.

It is impossible during the course of a brief visit to the Fields to acquire more than general idea of the work accomplished above ground and, more particularly, below the surface, but the following summary will, we hope, serve to convey some impression of the scope of our operations.

From the commencement of operations in 1880 until the 30th June 1913, 10,242,000 ounces of gold have been won, realizing approximately £39,197,000 sterling. £15,589,000 has been distributed amongst the shareholders, and £2,003,000 paid to the Mysore Government in respect of royalty and percentage on dividends.

At the present time six British Companies, whose combined capital is £2,081,000, are concerned in developing the resources of this Field. They employ 500 Europeans, 340 Anglo-Indians and 25,230 Indians, who, with their families, make a total population of about 48,000. In addition, there is a considerable non-mining population which the industry has attracted to the neighbourhood.

As a result of this enterprise, on the site of what was 33 years ago a bleak and more or less unproductive tract, has been developed the busy, flourishing, and, we may add, unique Metalliferous Mining Centre which Your Excellency sees before you to-day.

To construct what has been aptly described as an oasis of human and mechanical activity in the jungle, and to achieve the

Address from Kolar Gold Field Mining Board.

remunerative results to which the figures already quoted testify, it was essential to provide, not only capital, but in a large degree, scientifically directed Geological and Mining energy and experience, combined with a determination to overcome all the dangers and difficulties inseparable from such a hazardous undertaking. But these indispensable factors would have been of but limited avail had our endeavours not been so continuously supported by the statesmanlike proceedings and beneficent co-operation of the Government of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore.

We would add to this general acknowledgment of enlightened Mysore policy a brief reference to two matters of first importance.

Your Excellency is doubtless aware that the greater portion of our Machinery (Stamp Mills, Air Compressors, Hoisting and Pumping Engines and Workshop Plant) is operated by electrical power generated at the Cauvery Falls situated about ninety miles away. For this project, which has contributed very largely to economical mining, we are indebted to the genius of His Highness's officials. In like manner we have also to thank them for the provision of an excellent and abundant supply of water filtered at, and pumped from, the Betamangalam Works a few miles distant from the Mines. To the inestimable boon of a pure water supply we owe in a great measure our comparative immunity from those dread diseases which, previously, we had too frequently to contend with.

It was found necessary, in order to cope with thefts of the precious metal at various stages of production, to take extraordinary preventive measures necessarily involving a large outlay. Bodies of watchmen were enlisted in other parts of India, and the Companies contributed towards the upkeep of a special staff of detectives. Additionally, a Regulation of a very special character was enacted by the Government of Mysore. This operates on the Fields with, it is believed, highly beneficial results, but it does not extend to the Kolar Gold Fields Railway, comprising a narrow strip of land, over which the British Government exercises jurisdiction, running through the centre of the Mining Area. We have no intention of imputing unfriendliness or obstruction to the Railway Police, but it must, we think, be obvious that a thin wedge of foreign jurisdiction, practically open, and indistinguishable from the tract which it penetrates, must to some extent prove an obstacle in the continuity so essential to successful working under the Gold Mines Regulation. Our arguments have been fully set out in the cases submitted through the

Address from Kolar Gold Field Mining Board.

Mysore Authorities to the Resident, and we trust that they may receive considerate treatment at the hands of the Government of India.

We feel that some reference to the occurrence of what have been termed "Air Blasts" in these Mines is called for, a phenomenon which, as Your Excellency will be aware, is not peculiar to the Kolar Gold Field. We need scarcely assure Your Excellency that every precautionary measure that experience can suggest has been, and continues, in close co-operation with the Mysore Geological Department, to be taken, to render the under-ground workings as little liable to these convulsions of nature as possible, and to protect our workmen from their effects.

We have had many evidences in the past of the interest taken by the Government of India in the Kolar Gold Field, and we beg earnestly to express the hope that, under Your Excellency, Mining generally throughout India will continue to receive its support.

In conclusion, we would respectfully offer to Your Excellency our most sincere congratulations on Your Excellency's restoration to health, which, we trust, will long remain unimpaired; and ask you to accept the renewed assurance of our appreciation of the great honour which Your Excellency's visit has bestowed upon us.

His Excellency replied as follows :—]

Gentlemen,—I desire to thank both you and your Companies in London for a welcome, which I highly appreciate. I have looked forward to a visit to the field, because its history is an example of what can be achieved by indomitable perseverance in the face often of considerable discouragement. You have referred in warm terms to the support which the Companies have received from the Government of Mysore, and both the Durbar and yourselves are to be heartily congratulated on the successful outcome of your joint efforts.

A striking feature in the record of the mines is the steadiness with which the production has been maintained and gradually increased. This, I understand, is due, not to uniformity in the conditions in which the gold occurs, but to the foresight and skill with which the mines have been worked and the deeper strata have been explored. The mines are now showing a gold output of

Address from Kolar Gold Field Mining Board.

over three crores of rupees per annum, from which the Durbar derives a gross income of 18 lakhs a year. These results exceed, I believe, the most sanguine expectations of the original promoters.

The electric power installation on the Cauvery is one of the largest in the Empire. It owes its inception to that great statesman, the late Dewan Sir Sheshadri Iyer, and to the energy and skill of Colonel deLotbinière, R.E. The financial success of the scheme is probably almost without parallel, and during the past three years diagrams I have seen show that the gross revenue, net revenue, percentage of profit on investment and surplus earned, all have an upward tendency. Commencing with a supply of 6,000 H. P. in 1901-02, the project has undergone developments, which now enables it to deliver over 13,000 H. P.; while the Durbar have under construction a new reservoir, calculated not only still further to augment the power-supply, but also to render the power-supply independent of variations in the river discharge.

I cannot let this occasion pass without a reference to the lamentable accident which occurred in the Mysore mine last August, through which no fewer than 42 men lost their lives, and I should like to tender to their relations my deepest sympathy in the terrible bereavement and grief which this catastrophe brought upon them. This particular accident was due to the breaking of a steel link, owing to causes which have so far defied the efforts of the cleverest experts to ascertain, but I am afraid that mining industries all over the world involve a certain amount of danger, and the Kolar Gold Fields have, in the air-blasts which from time to time occur, a peril, so far as I know, peculiar to themselves. These air-blasts are due to the rocks being strained beyond their elastic capacity, and so far the remedy that has been most largely applied is that of relieving the rocks of part

Address from Kolar Gold Field Mining Board.

of the strain by the countless bulks of timber with which the roofs and walls are lined. The enormous amount of timbering used, and the large sums spent in this way, are evidence that the Companies are alive to their heavy responsibilities in this matter. Other devices have been tried with fair success, but it is hoped to dispense by degrees with their necessity by sinking shafts in the solid "country" instead of in the reef itself. I am told that this plan has now been followed for some time in regard to new and important shafts; that it has improved matters, and will improve them still further, as new shafts come more and more into use and the old ones are abandoned. It would be a mistake to assume that accidents are more frequent here, or the danger greater, than in mining industries in other parts of the world. I am afraid I have not the most recent figures at hand; but for the quinquennium ending 1910, the annual average death-rate per mille in the Transvaal gold mines was 4·45, and in the metal mines of the United States 2·89, whereas in the Mysore gold mines for the same period the rate was 2·71.

My Government have recently agreed to transfer to the Durbar on certain conditions jurisdiction on the branch railway to the field, as an experimental measure for one year. Whether the result will be to realise the expectations of the Companies in reducing thefts of gold, etc., experience alone can show, but the orders issued are sufficient to indicate the desire of the Government of India to meet, so far as possible, the wishes of those engaged in commercial enterprises for the development of the country, and I can assure you that such enterprises, whether concerned with mines or with other objects, will continue to receive the careful and sympathetic support of the Government.

I have just had the privilege of inspecting a very fine guard-of-honour drawn from your Volunteer Force, of

Address of Welcome from Madura Municipality.

whose high standard of efficiency I have received very satisfactory and interesting reports. The Corps have done very well in shooting, and I congratulate them heartily on having won twice running, in 1911 and 1912, the Cup I have the pleasure of presenting annually for competition among non-Railway Corps, G Company and A Company, respectively, being the victors.

I am glad to learn also that a considerable number of members have obtained the certificates of the St. John Ambulance Association. It seems to me that the training in ambulance work should sometimes prove of special value in a mining field, and the handsome challenge shield, which the Mining Board offer for annual competition, is a gratifying testimony to the interest they take in the instruction of their employes in first-aid.

In conclusion, I will only tender my acknowledgments of your congratulations on my restoration to health, and will once more assure you of the very great pleasure which it afford me to find myself amongst you, and my regret that on this occasion Lady Hardinge was unable to accompany me.

ADDRESS OF WELCOME FROM MADURA MUNICIPALITY.

[His Excellency the Viceroy arrived at Madura in the afternoon of the 22nd November. The platform of the station was most tastefully decorated and over 500 people were present. After inspecting the guard-of-honour His Excellency was presented by the Municipal Council with the following address :—

22nd Nov.
1913.

May it please Your Excellency,—We, the members of the Municipal Council, on behalf of the people of Madura, beg leave to present to Your Excellency this our humble address of welcome on the auspicious occasion of Your Excellency's visit to our city. It is a source of pride and pleasure to us that Madura, a city of great antiquity and historic renown, should have been included in the programme of Your Excellency's tour to the South of India, and we esteem it a rare privilege to be allowed to offer in person

Address of Welcome from Madura Municipality.

our hearty and respectful congratulations on Your Excellency's and Lady Hardinge's providential escape from the cowardly and dastardly attempt on your lives. We are profoundly thankful that by the mercy of God Your Excellency's valuable life has been spared to continue to us the fruits of Your Excellency's loving and sympathetic administration. Our city as well as our district has recently had the happiness to celebrate Your Excellency's birthday most loyally and with great enthusiasm, and words cannot express the joy we now feel at having the good fortune to have you in our midst to-day.

This ancient city, the Capital of the Pandiyan Kingdom, has been the seat of the famous Tamil Sangam whose renown in Tamil poetry and learning was so world-wide as to confer on this city the proud distinction of "The Athens of Southern India." It has, besides, very holy and religious associations clustering round it, as the birthplace of Goddess Meenakshi, the consort of Siva, and the scene of Siva's 64 Leelas (miracles). The Palace of Tirumal Nayak (one of the famous rulers of the Nayak dynasty), in which the courts of justice and other public offices are at present located, is a splendid example of the durability and beauty of the Hindu architecture, and has always attracted visitors from all parts of the globe.

We take this occasion to express our gratitude to Your Excellency's Government for the invaluable blessings conferred on our district by the Poriyar Irrigation Project, which benefits about 122,000 acres of land and has greatly enhanced the prosperity of the district. The health, comfort and sanitation of our city continue to receive the watchful and beneficent care of Government, and we are grateful that the Government of Madras has been recently pleased to sanction the construction of drainage and water supply improvement works of this city at a cost of 33 lakhs of rupees, a moiety of which is the free gift of Government.

We beg to conclude by once again expressing our gratitude for the great honour done to us by Your Excellency's visit and with the heartfelt assurance of our profound and sincere loyalty to the British Throne, and pray for Your Excellency's and Lady Hardinge's long life and prosperity.

To which His Excellency made the following reply:—]

Gentlemen,—I have listened with very great pleasure to your loyal and hearty address. I need hardly assure you that I have been looking forward with the keenest

Address of Welcome from Madura Municipality.

anticipation to my visit to this, the second city of the Madras Presidency. It was not, however, the size of your population which drew me here, though your steady growth in this respect is a subject of congratulation as a testimony to increasing prosperity, but rather those ancient traditions which lend a glamour to the name of Madura and those architectural remains of which you are so justly proud, and I can only regret that the journey I had to take, in order to make myself acquainted with some of the details of the great scheme for improving communication between India and Ceylon, has so shortened the time at my disposal that it is now impossible for me to pay a visit to your famous temple and other interesting buildings.

The invasion of Alexander the Great brought North-Western India into contact with Grecian civilisation, and it is most interesting to find at Madura evidences that South-Eastern India had touch with the Roman Empire; but you have rightly in your address placed your finger upon your proudest claim to historical distinction, in the exalted position once held by your city as a seat of learning.

I hope there is no truth in the old story that the renowned Tamil Sangam withheld approval from Tiruvalluvar's famous poem, Kural, but that, thanks to the miraculous properties of the diamond bench upon which they sat to deliver judgment, it grew bigger to make room for the book, and then the book itself grew bigger and pushed all the 48 members of the Sangam off the seat.

The story is not without its attractions, however, and contains a moral against intellectual jealousy, and illustrates the truth that real merit will ultimately assert itself, in a way that I am sure your Tamil Sangam of to-day would highly approve.

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Learning is not now quite so strict a monopoly as it was in those old days, and I trust that you are holding your own in the modern race for education. The danger of intellectual jealousy is not likely to assail you, but it behoves us all to remember that mere learning and intellectual agility, unless they are accompanied by sterling character, are of little value.

Your city indeed owes a debt of gratitude to Tirumal Nayak, for, stormy as was his reign, it was he who brought his Royal residence back to Madura from Trichinopoly; and it was to his taste for the magnificent that are due so many of your beautiful old buildings. I am particularly sorry that I shall not have an opportunity of examining them, for in the building of our new city of Delhi I am most anxious that there should be a strong Indian *motif*, and am eager to search out and see whatever is best in Indian architecture.

Your address contains no complaints and no appeals, and I appreciate very highly the note of gratitude it strikes for the liberal assistance given by the Madras Government to your drainage and water works, and for the benefits conferred upon your district by the Periyar Irrigation Project. It is indeed a source of unmitigated satisfaction to think that this scheme should have proved so great a success, for I doubt whether any other irrigation project in India gave rise to so much anxious consideration and such prolonged discussion before it was undertaken, while the difficulties that were overcome in its execution at times seemed almost insuperable.

I am most grateful for your sympathetic reference to the peril that Lady Hardinge and I passed through last year, and for your congratulations upon our Providential protection; we were both greatly touched by the spontaneous exhibition of kindly feeling which here and elsewhere made the Children's Day so great a success in

Address of Welcome at Trichinopoly.

celebration of my recovery. I thank you once more, in all sincerity, for the very warm welcome you have given me to your famous city, and it is a source of regret to me that owing to the unprecedented floods Lady Hardinge is not here to share it with me.

ADDRESS OF WELCOME AT TRICHINOPOLY.

[On arrival at Trichinopoly in the evening of the 22nd Nov. 1913. His Excellency the Viceroy was presented with the following address of welcome:—

May it please Your Excellency,—We, the members of the Reception Committee, representing the lauded aristocracy and the various trades and professions, the Civil and Military administration, the Local and Municipal bodies and the public and religious institutions in the district, take this opportunity of according to Your Excellency a hearty welcome to this, our ancient and historic city, the earliest capital of one of the three Great Dravidian Kingdoms. The Historic Rock which Your Excellency has just visited bears witness to the vicissitudes of fortune, which the Carnatic in general and our district in particular passed through in the strenuous times preceding the advent of the Mighty Race, with whose destinies the fortune of this land is closely and minutely interwoven. Side by side with the inscriptions of the Pallava and Dravidian Rulers of the country in the monolithic caves which are the remarkable features of the Rock appear evidences of the Mahomedan and European occupation of the Nayaka fortress in a portion of which it is our rare privilege to welcome Your Excellency and Lady Hardinge to-day.

In according this welcome to the august representative of our beloved King-Emperor, we are not prompted alone by the deep-rooted sentiments of loyalty which form the characteristic features of the essentially order-loving and peaceful subjects of His Majesty in this part of India, sentiments to which we, in this district, have ever been known to be second to none in giving practical expression, on the occasion of the visits of successive Governors and Viceroys.

In paying you this homage of hearty welcome, we also realize that this country owes a deep debt of gratitude to the noble and

92 *Speeches by H. E. Lord Hardinge of Penshurst.*

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courageous members of your family for their distinguished services during more than a century of the growth of the British Indian Empire.

Your great-uncle fell, off the coast of Ceylon, on the eve of a signal naval victory for the cause of India.

Your illustrious grandfather, who assumed charge of the office of the Governor-General at one of the critical periods of the English Rule in India, had to discharge also the duties of Commander-in-Chief and devote his attention to the establishment of order after the Sikh War. And a grateful India remembers that he was no less great in the arts of peace than in those of war. The same magnanimity which dictated his proceeding from regiment to regiment comforting the men within three hundred yards of the pouring fire of the Khalsa army, during one of the engagements of the memorable campaign, made him also foster the policy promulgated in the time of Lord William Bentinck, more than a decade earlier, of governing the Indian territories acquired by the East India Company for the moral progress and material prosperity of the inhabitants of this vast continent.

Your Excellency was pleased to observe in one of your speeches, that though you had become acquainted with many countries and different nationalities and though your home was in the West, you were not altogether a stranger to the East before you assumed charge of your exalted office. The numerous questions connected with the welfare of India seem to have received your attention wherever you were placed, at Tehran, at St. Petersburg or at the Foreign Office, and to use your own words, a tradition handed down from father to son seems to have ever secured a warm corner in your heart for this country.

It was befitting the traditions of your noble ancestry that Your Excellency's Government should have advised the memorable Coronation Reforms of which the essential features were the putting an end to the misunderstanding and dissatisfaction caused by the Partition of Bengal and the transfer of the Capital of India to the historic city of Delhi. The signal success of His Imperial Majesty's visit, an event unique in the annals of Indian History, was in no small measure due to your far-seeing statesmanship and sympathy with the aspirations of the loyal millions of the Indian Empire.

We should be failing in our duty, if we omitted to refer to the whole-hearted and sympathetic manner in which you have

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carried out the Council Reforms inaugurated by Lord Minto, or the true impetus you have given to Collegiate Education by emphasising in practice the need for "Teaching and Residential Universities." And the words you spoke expressing your abiding confidence in our good sense and loyalty and conveying to us the message of faith and hope soon after and despite the dastardly outrage perpetrated on your person at Delhi will be handed down to posterity as words symbolical of the noble ideals which inspire His Imperial Majesty and His Viceroy in India in the retention of India as the brightest jewel in the Imperial Crown.

The whole country was agitated by anger, sorrow and anxiety by the news of the dastardly outrage perpetrated in the course of your entry into the now new, but time-honoured, Capital of India, on the person of one of India's popular Viceroys. Such shameful acts of violence and underhand methods, we take this opportunity of assuring you, are foreign to the constitutional means we have ever adopted for the realisation of our full share of rights and responsibilities, as subjects of the British Indian Empire, an Empire with which all our well-being is so indissolubly bound up, under the decree of Providence.

It was an occasion for sincere gratification and rejoicing when the recovery of Your Excellency was proclaimed an assured fact. The men and women of the land from every district sent forth their messages of sympathy to Lady Hardinge, who by her undaunted courage in that fateful hour and her unexampled fortitude in the anxious weeks that followed has set a noble example to her sisters. And on the 20th June last, we celebrated Your Excellency's birthday with feelings of joy. We have again, now, to express our feelings of thankfulness to that Divinity which shapes our ends, for Your Excellency's happy recovery from the effects of a cruel and senseless outrage on Your Excellency's person.

We refrain from alluding to the complex problems which ever present themselves for solution in the governance of the Indian Empire, for, we feel sure that when our representatives on the Imperial Legislative Council bring them to your notice, they will receive your sympathetic consideration.

The one subject, however, which we have to venture to place before you, is, the necessity for the early construction of "the Panruti to Trichinopoly" and "the Trichinopoly to Ramnad" Railway lines. This is a matter of Imperial interest as the

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lines afford the most direct connection between the northern and southern parts of the Presidency and between India and Ceylon, and they are those in which we and the people of the adjoining districts of South Arcot and Ramnad and the State of Pudukottah are intimately concerned as the new lines will open up populous and thriving tracts of country, at present devoid of adequate means of transport to develop their very large and increasing resources. We trust that this subject will receive the attention of Your Excellency's Government and pray that every facility may be given for these lines being placed in the forefront of next year's programme.

We feel it an especial honour and privilege to be able to welcome Her Excellency Lady Hardinge, who in spite of the heat and discomfort of the South Indian climate has condescended to be in our midst to-day.

To our illustrious guests we have ever shown the Historic Rock illuminated by the bright rays of the Ruling Luminary during the day and by such artificial light as we could command during the night, and we trust that Your Excellencies will carry away lively impressions of the humble attempt of His Majesty's loyal subjects in this district to make your hurried visit as interesting as possible.

Our only regret is that Your Excellency is not able to so prolong your visit as to enable us to accord a more fitting and hospitable reception to Your Excellency and Lady Hardinge than the exigencies of your brief programme permit.

We beg to conclude with fervent hopes that Providence will spare Your Excellency for many years yet to continue the great work, which you have undertaken to discharge, of making the foundations of His Majesty's British Indian Empire, based as they are on the love and deep affection of the people, broader and firmer than ever after His Majesty's visit and your endeavours to carry out his policy of sympathy for, and faith in, the Indian subjects of the Empire.

His Excellency made the following reply :—]

Gentlemen,—It has given me the most sincere pleasure to have been able to include in my tour a visit to your ancient and famous city, and I must say that my pleasure has been very greatly enhanced by the particularly kind welcome you have given me—a welcome that, coming as it does from every section of the com-

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munity, has made me feel at once that after a far journey I am at home amongst friends.

You have touched upon the connection my family has had with India and the East, and I can assure you that family tradition has a very great influence in shaping the character and inclination, and that from very early days the charm and history of this wonderful country have had for me surpassing interest and attraction. The life of a Governor General is strenuous and the burden of his responsibility heavy, but nothing can efface that charm or dim that interest, and when I leave your shores, as in due time I must, I shall carry with me a sense of satisfaction that I too have been permitted to hand on the tradition of my family, and shall cherish the hope that I may have been able to leave behind me a record, however slight, of something achieved for the good of India and of the Indian people.

I have been deeply touched by the references you have made to the grave danger through which my wife and I passed together last year; a Merciful Providence has restored me to complete health, and the horror which that incident provoked throughout India, and the joy of the Indian people at our merciful preservation, may be measured by the universal and whole-hearted celebrations which I am glad to think made the 20th of June a happy memory for children from one end of the peninsula to the other; and for the part you played in those rejoicings here in Trichinopoly I tender you our warmest thanks.

You have referred in eloquent language to some of the claims of your city and district to fame and historic renown, and I will not attempt to trace the somewhat bewildering story of its vicissitudes through the centuries of the Chola and Pallava dynasties down to the rule of the Nayakkans in later days. As you remind me, your

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city was the capital of the Cholas; and as I am not in Madura, I may be permitted to wonder why Tirumala, the great Ruler of the Nayakkan line, moved his capital back thither from this impregnable rock, with its never-failing river; and I feel confident that the chronic catarrh from which he is alleged to have suffered is a libel upon your climate. In later years, when Mahomedans and, after them, Europeans came upon the scene, this rock has witnessed many a scene of bloodshed and strife and many a determined siege; and now, after nearly a century and a half of peace, Trichinopoly holds a proud place as one of the largest towns of Southern India and one of the most important centres of trade.

You have refrained from tabulating a list of needs or grievances, and I can only hope that that has not involved for you a violent exercise of self-restraint. As regards the one matter you have mentioned, I regret I cannot make any very definite statement, but I can truly say that I fully appreciate and sympathise with your desire to see the Panruti-Ramnad line of railway constructed at an early date, and I can assure you that the matter is receiving the attention of myself and of my Government.

Let me once more thank you warmly, Gentlemen, for the very friendly greeting you have given me, and for the very great trouble you have taken to make my visit interesting; I can assure you that I shall carry away with me the happiest recollections of your city, and the kindest feelings for its citizens; while I bring from Lady Hardinge a message of deep regret that the unprecedented floods which have so seriously damaged the railways of Southern India—though happily for you they have only affected a corner of your district—should have prevented her from sharing with me the pleasure of this expedition and of your welcome,

ADDRESS OF WELCOME AT TANJORE.

[His Excellency the Viceroy arrived at Tanjore on the 23rd 23rd Nov. November and was presented with the following address of 1913. welcome from the District and Taluk Boards and the Municipal Committee:—

May it please Your Excellency,—On behalf of the inhabitants of the Tanjore District, we, the members of the Tanjore District Board, the various Taluk Boards and Municipal Councils of this District, beg respectfully to be permitted to accord to Your Excellency a hearty welcome to this ancient and historic town, the Headquarters of our District.

On this occasion, when we are in the presence of Your Excellency, we cannot help feeling and expressing how thankful we are for the Providential escape on the 23rd December 1912 of Your Excellency and Lady Hardinge, and Your Excellency's words of reassurance at the first meeting of the reformed Legislative Council have given us a fresh lease of abiding hope and a glimpse of the sincerity and earnestness of purpose that underlie the continuance of the British Rule in this country.

Your Excellency has been our Viceroy now for three years. This period has been full of many events of historic significance and great future import. We feel we cannot be sufficiently thankful that we have, at this juncture, Your Excellency's wise and sympathetic statesmanship to guide the destinies of our country.

Your Excellency has striven to foster the new reformed Legislative Councils brought into being by Lord Minto, and we earnestly hope that these Councils will grow to be of greater and greater use to the Government and the country. The spread and improvement of education of all grades that are now being carried on by Your Excellency's Government, and the efforts that are being made to secure even a greater rate of progress in the future, will, we hope, enable us to realise in course of time the goal that His Majesty the Emperor of India placed before us of every cottage in his Indian Empire enjoying the blessings of education. We would also gratefully refer to what concerns us locally and immediately, the large grants that are now being bestowed for sanitation, which, we hope, will enable us to provide our villages and towns with supplies of wholesome drinking water on which depend so largely our health and comfort.

We realise that Your Excellency's stay here is short, but we feel we cannot miss this opportunity of placing before Your

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Exoellency certain matters which are of more than local importance, though, at the present time, they specially affect our district.

One important reform is urgent—and this can only be secured by legislative action. We refer to the condition of Mutts and Temples in this country. They are Institutions with considerable endowments, the management of which frequently brings contempt and odium on the institutions themselves. The Courts are powerless to rectify this abuse; for, where the course of judicial decisions drifts into some definite channel, it so happens that undue deference is given to precedent, and any reform, however necessary and harmless it may be, is discarded as not being in conformity with the pre-existing order of things. Thus large sums of money are wasted and misspent, very often for purposes directly counter to the wishes of the founders of the institutions, and of the community for whose benefit they were intended. It is within the power only of Your Excellency to rectify this state of things, and we are confident that any legislative reforms for the above purpose will have the full and enthusiastic support of every class of people in this country.

This District owes its prosperity principally to the Canvery River and the rich silt she brings. Even at present, the Delta in this District often suffers from insufficient water. We view therefore with great concern the proposals of the Mysore Government to utilise a large volume of this water for newly irrigating a part of its territories hitherto not so irrigated. We are not aware of the details of the scheme put forward by the Mysore Government, and therefore we are not able to particularise our objections to the scheme. But, as it is a matter of very grave importance to this District, we beg leave to bring the matter to Your Excellency's kind notice, and to request that the agricultural needs of this District may be adequately and firmly pressed for consideration when the matter is finally decided.

The Tanjore District Board has built 103 miles of railway and the survey of the construction of another 30 miles has been completed and the work of construction has commenced. A survey has been sanctioned of nearly 42 miles more of railway, and the District Board expects to find funds for the construction of all these lines. The absence of suitable road material and the difficulty of its transport have, from 1878, forced the attention of the Administrators of this District to rely upon the Railway as the main means of internal communication and the

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expansion of this means of communication is very essential to this District. The South Indian Railway have hitherto constructed and maintained for the District Board the lines of railway owned by it, and we have found this arrangement satisfactory. Some difficulties have, however, arisen, and we may mention the claim for compensation advanced by the South Indian Railway Company on account of our proposal to join Tirutturaipundi and Mannargudi, on the ground that it short-circuits the existing railway line. We appreciate the difficulties that arise from chord lines, yet we feel that when this Board extension will bring so much extra traffic to the South Indian Railway and the chord affects so short a line, it is scarcely proper to strangle the proposal by the rule against short-circuiting. Such difficulties may disappear if it should be possible for the State to construct and maintain the District Board Railways in this Presidency, but, probably, other difficulties would stand in the way of this suggestion. We would only beseech a sympathetic consideration of our attempts to construct and maintain a system of rapid communication entirely on the basis of local taxation.

We finally beg to thank Your Excellency for this kind and gracious visit, which is all too short compared with our desires, and we respectfully beg Your Excellency to accept the hearty and sincere welcome that we rejoice to offer. We had hoped to have the pleasure of welcoming Lady Hardinge also, and would now respectfully request Your Excellency to convey to her our feelings of good-will and devotion.

His Excellency replied as follows:—]

Gentlemen,—Let me thank you very heartily for the very cordial welcome you have given me and for your friendly reference to the merciful preservation last year vouchsafed to Lady Hardinge and myself. You have spoken with warm appreciation of the policy I have endeavoured to follow since the responsibility for the administration of this vast and wonderful country fell upon my shoulders, and I am indeed grateful for such language; the responsibility is no light one, and its proper discharge is enough to tax my utmost energy; at times the burden is almost more than a man

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can carry; but now and again words, such as you have used to me to-day, come to encourage me in the performance of my task and to cheer me with the thought that I am not ploughing an altogether lonely furrow, but that I am working in co-operation with, and along lines approved by, the most enlightened of the people of India.

* I fear my stay among you can be but brief, but it has been a very great pleasure that I was able to include in my programme a visit to this famous city, at one time the capital of that great dynasty who left you for a lasting memorial the great and stately temple for which Tanjore is so justly famous. Under their rule, nearly a thousand years ago, the arts of war and peace and civil administration reached a high state of development, and I need only remind you that the grand anicut, which has been described as "the bulwark of the fertility of the Tanjore community," owes its origin to their genius, and still constitutes the base of the modern improvements upon it.

You have referred to the important part played by irrigation in the prosperity of your district, and I can well understand the anxiety which you feel regarding the claim of the Mysore Durbar to a larger share of the waters of the Cauvery river. I can assure you that the matter is one to which my Government have given their most careful attention; and as the result of their deliberations, they have referred the question to a strong board of arbitration. The claims of the Mysore Durbar cannot be lightly brushed aside, but I have every confidence that the arbitrators will arrive at a just and fair conclusion, and that the rights of the cultivators of the Tanjore District will be adequately safeguarded.

The remarks you have made regarding the necessity of legislation for the better administration of religious

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endowments corroborate impressions that I have received from other sources as to the importance attached to this question by a large body of opinion in the Madras Presidency. You are doubtless aware that the Government of India, in the cautious policy they have hitherto followed, have been actuated by a desire to avoid interference with questions touching the religious sentiments of the people; and though you may think their caution has been carried too far, I doubt whether you have not gone to the other extreme in suggesting that legislative reform would meet with no opposition from any class whatever.

I and my Government have lately given a great deal of time and thought to this matter, to which our attention has been attracted by the Bills recently promoted by Members of the Bombay and Madras Legislative Councils, and I have some hope that we may be able in the near future to devise a policy which will give general satisfaction.

I have listened with the greatest interest to your statement describing the very considerable mileage of railways which your District Board have been able to construct. The District Boards of Madras have been fortunate in that they possess the power, limited to this Presidency of Madras, of levying a small additional land cess for the purpose of the guarantee or construction of light railways. Remarkable results have been attained as the result of the exercise of this power, the extension of which to the rest of India, at the option of the Local Governments, is under consideration; and I applaud in particular the enterprise shown by yourselves. The results you have achieved reflect the very greatest credit on your administration, and I understand that your expenditure has proved a very remunerative investment, returning nearly 8 per cent. on the capital spent. Rail-

Addresses from various bodies at Madras

ways such as yours, constructed by locally raised funds provided largely by the residents of your district, are to my mind enterprises which should be most warmly supported by Government, and I feel confident that this movement has a field for large expansion.

I think I have now touched upon all the points mentioned in your address, and it only remains for me to thank you once more most sincerely for the extremely kind welcome you have given me.

I hope and believe that the floods that have caused such serious damage in the neighbouring district of South Arcot have had less calamitous results in Tanjore. It is to them that is due the absence of Lady Hardinge on this occasion, and I can only assure you that no one regrets it more than herself.

ADDRESSES FROM VARIOUS BODIES AT MADRAS

24th Nov. 1913. [Their Excellencies the Viceroy and Lady Hardinge arrived at the Central Station Madras, on the morning of the 24th November. Their Excellencies shook hands with His Excellency the Governor of Madras and Lady Pentland who were waiting on the platform with their staff. Lord Pentland afterwards presented Brigadier-General Hamilton, General Officer Commanding the Southern Brigade, the Hon'ble Mr W. O. Hoare, Chief Secretary to the Government, Mr Moore, President of the Corporation, and Captain the Hon'ble M. de Coure, Brigade Major to General Hamilton. After a guard-of-honour of the Railway Volunteers which was drawn up on the platform, had been inspected, Their Excellencies proceeded to the carriages. Outside the station another guard-of-honour composed of 100 rank and file of the 76th Carnatic Infantry with the band and colours was drawn up and these His Excellency also proceeded to inspect. The escort to the carriages was formed by His Excellency the Governor's Bodyguard, supplemented by a squadron of the 26th Cavalry and a detachment of the Southern Provinces Mounted Rifles. The procession passed by the General Hospital and the Penitentiary across the Government Bridge and along the Bodyguard Road as far as the Banqueting Hall.]

Addresses from various bodies at Madras.

The route was lined by the Dublin Fusiliers, the Railway Volunteers, the Madras Volunteer Guards and, opposite the Body-guard lines, by a detachment of Madras Boy Scouts. The dense crowds gave Their Excellencies an enthusiastic reception. On arrival at the Banqueting Hall His Excellency was received at the foot of the steps by General Hamilton, O.C., Madras, who accompanied His Excellency on his inspection of the guard-of-honour of the Dublin Fusiliers drawn up outside. A procession then formed up and proceeded to the *dois* at the end of the Banqueting Hall, when the following were presented to Their Excellencies:—His Highness the Maharaja of Travancore, His Highness the Raja of Cochin, His Highness the Raja of Padukottah, the Prince of Arcot, the Bishop of Madras, Sir John and Lady Atkinson, Sir Harold Stuart, Sir Arnold White, Sir Swami Aiyer and other officials of the Madras Government. His Excellency the Governor's band played in the gallery during the presentations, at the conclusion of which Their Excellencies walked to Government House.

Immediately after lunch His Excellency the Viceroy, accompanied by Lord Pentland, proceeded to the banqueting hall to receive addresses from the following:—The Mahomedan Anjuman-i-Mufid-Ahil-i-Islam, the Mahomedan Educational Association of Southern India, and the Madras Presidency Muslim League, the Madras Chamber of Commerce, the Southern India Chamber of Commerce, the Madras Landholders' Association, the Madras Mahajana Sabha, and the Madras Provincial Congress Committee, the Anglo-Indian Association of Southern India, the Co-operators of the Madras Presidency, the Catholic Indian Association of Southern India and the Indian Christian Association of Madras, Madras Provincial Congress Committee, Indian Commercial Community of Madras, International Order of Good Templars of Southern India, and All-India Sub-Assistant Surgeons' Association. At the conclusion of each address the members of the deputation were presented to His Excellency, and the reader of the address presented His Excellency with a silver or ebony casket.

The addresses were as follows:—

MAHOMEDAN ANJUMAN-I-MUFID-AHIL-I-ISLAM.

May it please Your Excellency,—On the occasion of the first visit of Your Excellency and Lady Hardinge to our historic town

Addresses from various bodies at Madras.

and Presidency, we venture to welcome Your Excellencies on behalf of all the Mussalmans of Southern India; we trust we may claim to do so representing, as we do, three institutions which watch over Mussalman interests in this Presidency. The Anjuman-i-Mufid-i-Ahil-i-Islam is the oldest Muslim institution in this Presidency; when it was first started, its aim was to better the conditions of the Mussalmans in regard to all matters—social, educational and political. It has since then, however, been mainly restricting itself to an effort to impart technical education to the young men of our community; it provides training in such arts as carpentering and carpet-making to poor boys, and at the same time supports the boys who are being trained; we feel therefore that it was never productive of more good than at the present moment. In this institution we receive the co-operation and support of gentlemen who do not belong to our own religion, but who generously work with us in furthering the objects which are primarily concerned with the advancement of technical education among the Mussalmans.

The next institution which we have the honour to represent before Your Excellency on this occasion is the Mahomedan Educational Association of Southern India, which concerns itself mainly with the higher educational questions amongst the Mussalmans. It was established in 1902 after the Sessions in Madras of the All-India Mahomedan Educational Conference, and it can now claim to have no less than twenty-two branches in the various districts of the Madras Presidency.

Finally, we represent before Your Excellency also the Madras Presidency Muslim League, which includes in its activities the advancement and safeguarding of the political, social and religious interests of the Mussalmans.

Coming, as we do, before Your Excellency as the representatives of the Mussalmans in so many different branches of their activities, we feel it incumbent upon us to allude to one or two of the more important matters which concern the progress of the Mussalmans under the British rule. In the first instance, however, we find it impossible not to refer to an event which has deeply stirred feeling all over the Peninsula, and not less in the hearts of the Mussalmans than amongst the other communities. The dastardly attack on Your Excellency's life caused a shock of apprehension to pass through our minds, but we are thankful to say it was followed rapidly by a sense of relief and

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gratitudo to the Almighty at the recovery of Your Excellency. We feel also deeply grateful that, out of events which seemed so dark, we were enabled to witness an example of such heroism as Your Excellencies displayed, and to realise for ourselves something of that spirit which we had been taught to admire in the history of the British people, and to which the glory of the British Empire owes so much.

Any address of the nature that we are now taking the liberty to present to Your Excellency would be defective if it did not allude to the gratification with which the Mussalmans all over the country have read the circular letter, dated the 3rd April 1913, issued by the Government of India to all the Provincial Governments. It is a source of satisfaction to us that the Government have realised the difficulties in the way of our educational progress and development, and that the necessity has been recognised for making special efforts to raise the members of the Muslim community to a higher level of efficiency as useful citizens. Nor can it be said that efforts are wanting on the part of ourselves to raise the standard of education and advancement of our people. We barely allude to the keen interest and the great anxiety we feel with reference to the future of the project by which the Mussalmans of India will have a University of their own, as this is hardly an opportune occasion for referring to matters which may be the subject of a special deputation to Your Excellency. We have every hope that, when the questions relating to a Muslim University are considered by Your Excellency, such wide and liberal statesmanship will accompany Your Excellency's consideration of the questions as will satisfy the expectations of all open-minded Mussalmans.

We refrain from alluding in this place to the hopes and aspirations of the Mussalmans in regard to their share in the administration and in the representative bodies of this country, as we feel that our aspirations carry with them the fullest sympathy of the Government.

In conclusion, we once again welcome Your Excellency and Lady Hardinge, and pray that Your Excellencies may carry away pleasant recollections of this tour, together with such closer knowledge of the people whose destinies are entrusted to Your Excellency's care as may enable a full result to flow from those desires which we know actuate every step taken by Your Excellency in the government of this country.

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MADRAS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

May it please Your Excellency.—It is with feelings of great pleasure that we, the members of the Madras Chamber of Commerce, tender to Your Excellency and Lady Hardinge a hearty welcome to our ancient city, and we desire to express our appreciation of the honour conferred on our Chamber by Your Excellency in consenting to accept this address at welcome.

Although residents of one of the most ancient and important towns of the Indian Empire, we, the inhabitants of Madras, on rare occasions have our Viceroy with us, and to-day, when in the presence of Your Excellency for the first time, the feeling uppermost in our minds is one of thankfulness for the complete recovery of Your Excellency from the injuries sustained on the occasion of the State Entry into Delhi, a feeling universally shared by all subjects throughout the Indian Empire, irrespective of the differences of caste and creed.

The members of this Chamber are pleased to be in a position to report to Your Excellency a steady increase during the past few years in the commercial prosperity of Madras.

Madras Harbour.—The improvements to the Madras Harbour effected during recent years under the supervision of Sir Francis Spring, K.C.I.E., Chairman of the Port Trust, have contributed to the above-mentioned satisfactory state of affairs, and the hope expressed in the address presented by this Chamber on the occasion of the visit to Madras, on the 9th December 1909, of your distinguished predecessor, the Earl of Minto, that Madras would in the course of a few years possess an up-to-date harbour provided with the latest appliances for handling cargo, bids fair to be an accomplished fact at an early date. The mercantile community are grateful to Government for the sympathetic manner in which the various schemes put forward by the Trustees of the Port Trust have been received, and a visit to the harbour will show that the financial assistance rendered by Government has been utilised to the best advantage. The improvements have borne tangible results, and certain large steamship companies, which for many years avoided Madras, have resumed calling regularly, with results mutually satisfactory to themselves and Madras. An instance may be quoted in the case of the S.S. *Caledonia*, which arrived in Madras harbour at 1 p.m. and sailed

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within 2½ hours after embarking no less than 161 passengers—a record, we venture to think, difficult to surpass at any port. Equally satisfactory results are being recorded in the handling of merchandise, and the figures for 1912 constitute a record for both imports and exports.

Coast ports.—We regret we cannot place before Your Excellency an equally satisfactory report regarding the work at our coast ports. From Cuddalore, Porto Novo and Negapatam, there is a large export trade to Europe, but for many years shippers have sustained heavy losses through pilfering of cargo while in transit from godown to steamer. Many efforts have been made by merchants to put a stop to the notorious practices taking place, but without success, and the state of affairs is steadily growing worse. Prosecution of the offenders is useless, as in the case of groundnut kernels the rightful owner of the goods is at once confronted with the impossibility of identifying the stolen kernels as his property. The members of this Chamber, therefore, pray that the law may be so amended as to throw the onus of proof of ownership on the person found in possession of property within certain clearly defined port limits.

Indian finance and currency.—The members of this Chamber await with interest the issue in due course of the report of the Royal Commission on Indian Finance and Currency now sitting in London, and hope that suitable recommendations will be made by the Commissioners and accepted by Government to ameliorate the present unsatisfactory state of affairs, which permits of large sums of money lying idle in the civil treasuries of the Government of India at a time when financial assistance is most required to market the crops.

Railways.—The necessity for the opening up of new feeder lines of railways in order to develop certain districts of our Presidency is a matter of great urgency, and the members of this Chamber ask for Your Excellency's sympathetic consideration of any suitable schemes placed before Government to improve the present position, and to accelerate the completion of certain branch lines of railway that have for years been surveyed and hung up for some reason or another.

In conclusion, the members of this Chamber again thank Your Excellency for having graciously accepted this address, and trust that the present tour will prove a pleasant and enjoyable one to Your Excellency and Lady Hardinge, and that it will also be of lasting benefit to the towns and districts which have

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been privileged to offer Your Excellencies a hearty welcome. We hope that the present may be only one of many visits which Your Excellencies will pay to this Presidency.

MADRAS LANDHOLDERS' ASSOCIATION.

May it please Your Excellency,—We, the members of the Madras Landholders' Association, respectfully beg to offer to Your Excellency and Lady Hardinge our most cordial welcome to this city, the metropolis of Southern India.

As representing the landed aristocracy of this Province, we deeply appreciate the priceless blessings of peace and order, of liberty and security, which have been conferred on India by the British Raj, and keenly feel that our best interests are bound up with the continuance of its beneficent sway.

Our watchword has always been loyalty and devotion to the Imperial Throne. We are particularly happy to have been afforded this opportunity of giving expression to the feelings of profound respect and attachment which we cherish towards His Gracious Majesty, the Emperor of India, by according to Your Excellency our most hearty and loyal welcome on this occasion.

Your Excellency has, by your personal and public virtues, earned the love and gratitude of the teeming millions of this country. The high-minded and far-seeing statesmanship, the largeness of heart, and the nobility of purpose, which have characterised Your Excellency's administration, and the happy association of Your Excellency with His Majesty's Coronation Durbar at Delhi and the gracious policy of sympathy and hope inaugurated therein, have made your name a household word throughout this land. It is, indeed, hardly possible for us to give a full and adequate expression to our feelings of joy and thankfulness at Your Excellency's providential escape from that cruel and dastardly outrage perpetrated on the occasion of Your Excellency's historic State Entry at Delhi. It passes our comprehension that Your Excellency, who has so sincerely identified yourself with the good of the people of India and so strenuously worked to advance it in all fruitful directions, should have been singled out to be the object of such a murderous deed. This dismal incident has humiliated India in the eyes of the world and tarnished her fair fame won through the ages. It is, however, gratifying to note that, as Your Excellency has been

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pleased to observe, crimes of this kind are abhorrent to the genius of Indian civilisation, and that the heart of India is pure and actively animated by its ancient love of righteousness and peaceful progress.

We earnestly pray that, by the blessing of Providence, Your Excellency may, during the rest of the period of your high office, be endowed with perfect health and strength to carry on, without interruption, the beneficent work of furthering the prosperity and happiness of the millions of His Majesty's loyal subjects committed to your charge.

We do not wish to trouble Your Excellency with a recital of our needs and difficulties. There are questions in connection with the recent Madras Estates' Land Act now awaiting solution at the hands of the Local Government, which is fortunately presided over by a sympathetic and high-minded statesman. Some of these questions vitally affect the status, the rights and the customary income of the landed proprietors of this Province. Should ever any representations to Your Excellency become necessary in regard to these important matters, we hope and trust that Your Excellency will accord to them your kind and sympathetic consideration.

It only remains for us to bid Your Excellency and Lady Hardinge once more a most cordial welcome, and wish that Your Excellencies may carry with you happy and pleasant recollections of your short sojourn in our midst.

MADRAS MAHAJANA SABHA.

May it please Your Excellency,—We, the members of the Madras Mahajana Sabha, beg to accord to Your Excellency our respectful and hearty welcome on the occasion of your first visit to the historic city of Madras. The inhabitants of this Presidency shared heartily in the universal rejoicing at Your Excellency's recovery from the injuries consequent on the dastardly attempt on Your Excellency's life last December, and cherish, with profound gratitude, Your Excellency's gracious assurance that the outrage has not affected your feelings towards India and her people.

We shall long cherish and continue to strive after the ideal set forth in the despatch of the Government of India that the Provinces "should have a large measure of self-government

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until at last India will consist of a number of administrations, autonomous in all Provincial affairs, with the Government of India above them all possessing a power of interference in case of misgovernment, but ordinarily restricting their functions to matters of Imperial concern."

As the oldest Political Association in South India, the Sabha feels it its duty to draw Your Excellency's attention to some of the most pressing questions of the day.

No effective steps have been taken towards the separation of judicial from executive functions, notwithstanding the fact that it has been long under the consideration of Government, and in fact has passed the region of controversy.

The status of our fellow-countrymen in South Africa, we are glad to acknowledge, has all along been a matter of the greatest concern with the Government of India, and we are grateful for the sympathy that the Government of India has been consistently evincing with and for the efforts that have been made to ameliorate their condition. The iniquitous South African Immigration Law, in which the policy of the South African Government towards Indians has culminated and has dispelled all doubts as to the wisdom of the Indian Government adopting retaliatory measures, and the Sabha would urge that the time has arrived for drastic and effective measures being adopted so as to make clear that this Government is determined that measures of legislation involving degradation to the Indian will not be tolerated.

The amendment of the Religious Endowments Act of 1863, so far at any rate as this Presidency is concerned, has been pressed on the attention of the Government of India for over a quarter of a century, and the Sabha is thankful that the Madras Government has been consistently supporting the efforts to procure such an amendment. The Sabha has to note with great regret that it is the Government of India that has been placing obstacles in the way of that Act being amended. The conditions relating to religious endowments in this Presidency are so different from those in the north that any objections that may be urged elsewhere ought not to stand in the way of the introduction of the necessary reform in this Presidency.

Other questions remain, such as the changes needed in the rules and regulations for the working of Reformed Councils, the settlement of land revenue, the more rapid developing of irrigation facilities in the Presidency, and the need for free and compulsory Primary Education, for measures of village sanita-

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tion and the early disposal of the many recommendations of the Decentralisation Commission calculated to improve the general well-being of the people and their capacity to administer their own affairs. The Sabha hopes that these various questions will have the sympathetic consideration of the Government.

The Sabha, in conclusion, hopes that Your Excellency will be enabled to carry away very pleasant recollections of your stay in this Presidency. The Sabha prays that Your Excellency will be pleased to assume His Majesty the King-Emperor of the loyalty of the people of this Presidency and of their affection for the Throne and person of His Majesty, and wishes that Your Excellency and Her Excellency Lady Hardinge will be long spared in health and strength to continue your interest in this country and its people.

ANGLO-INDIAN ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHERN INDIA.

May it please Your Excellency,—On behalf of the members of the Anglo-Indian Association of Southern India, we crave leave to approach Your Excellency and welcome Your Excellency and Lady Hardinge to our historic Presidency, which is also the oldest possession of the Crown in the British Empire.

While assuring Your Excellency of our devotion to His Imperial Majesty and our loyalty to his Government, we cannot but recall to memory the dastardly attempt made on the life of Your Excellency on the 23rd day of December last on the occasion of Your Excellency's State Entry into Delhi. Words fail to describe the mingled feelings of horror and indignation with which our community learnt the news of this outrage. It is sufficient to say the crime was universally condemned, and we trust that the fair fame of India may never again be tarnished by such insensate outrage. We thank Almighty God most fervently for having spared Your Excellency, as also the life of Lady Hardinge, whose historic behaviour on that lamentable occasion is beyond all praise.

Realising the advantages of education in uplifting the members of our community, our Association has, for some years past, been granting scholarships and paying fees to enable deserving boys and girls to prosecute their studies for the primary as well as for the higher examinations. Our Association has a special education fund for the purpose and devotes the greater part of

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its finances towards equipping the young members of our community for the battle of life in order that they may keep abreast of the other communities.

We are deeply grateful to Your Excellency for calling the Simla Conference to consider the problems connected with the education of our community, and we are eagerly looking forward for concrete measures as the outcome of this Conference. Our Association has made a representation last April to the Government of our Presidency; and as the matter is still under the consideration of our Government, we desire at this juncture to refrain from enlarging upon the subject. We are in hopes that our proposals will receive the approval of Government, especially those in regard to lending us teachers and the erection of hostels. We trust that, during the benign *régime* of Your Excellency's Government in India and in His Excellency Lord Pentland's in this Presidency, the question of Anglo-Indian education will be put upon a sound and satisfactory basis.

We may, however, be permitted to say a word on the subject of hostels. While hostels abound for pure Indian students, there are none at all for Anglo-Indians. Students come from the various outlying districts of the Presidency and from Bangalore to attend the arts and professional colleges and other institutions. They seek board and lodge in scattered parts of the city—such private boarding-houses are under no control and some are situated in undesirable places. Frequently youths of our community, to the great sorrow of their parents, turn out failures and succumb to the temptations usual in large cities.

We desire to tender our thanks for the State scholarship recently announced for girls, and we pray, having regard to the general poverty of the Anglo-Indian students and their want of opportunities, that a scholarship may be granted annually in each Province for boys and another for girls.

For some time past the various Anglo-Indian Associations have been memorialising Government to secure for the youths of our community the right to bear arms in defence of their King and country. Although they are allowed to serve as volunteers, yet they are not allowed to enlist in the regular forces. This deprivation we feel acutely, and we consider that an honourable avenue of employment is thus closed against our stalwart youths. We claim the right to bear arms as our birth-right, and desire that an opportunity should be afforded to our

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young men to prove their manliness and loyalty as soldiers of the King, and we believe that, when the community had opportunities, it acquitted itself most gallantly and loyally. When Your Excellency's Government appointed a Committee to consider the subject, we were filled with hopes that the time had at last come when our long-standing grievance was to be remedied; but in consequence of the report of the Committee not having been made public, we are still in a state of suspense. We hope, however, the recommendations of the Committee are favourable to the enlistment of members of our community and to the formation of Anglo-Indian regiments, and that Your Excellency's Government will be pleased to give the subject their most powerful support in their representations to the Secretary of State for India in Council, and remove an unmerited slur on the loyalty and the martial spirit of the community.

While thanking Your Excellency and the Governor of this Presidency for appointing representatives of our community to seats in the Imperial and the local Legislative Councils, we beg respectfully to submit that such nominations are at best an uncertain arrangement, and may at any time be affected amid the conflicting claims of more influential classes. To adequately safeguard the interests of our community, we earnestly beg that a seat in the Imperial Legislative Council and a seat in each Provincial Council may be reserved by rules. We need scarcely say that the right to return a member would be greatly valued by the community.

Our Association desires respectfully to bring to Your Excellency's notice the recent railway strike in Southern India. Though the Association is opposed to strikes and though it throw the whole weight of its influence against strikes and strikers, it cannot but point out to Your Excellency's Government that strike is a thing that has come to stay in India; and that, unless legislative measures are adopted whereby the employers and the employes could in a peaceful and rational manner settle their labour disputes, we must perforce expect periodical disturbances of this character. Legislation is more needed in India for the benefit of the employes, especially in view of the fact that the employers are more powerful in India than in the Western countries, and the labourers here are practically dumb, without influence or support. The want of such legislative enactments was made apparent in the recent strikes on the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway. It is necessary,

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in the interests of Government and the public at large, that strikes should be controlled by effective laws framed for the purpose. We need hardly say that a strike should be dealt with promptly and at the outset and should not be allowed to spread. Experience has shown that continuance of a strike not only engenders resentment of feelings between employers and employes, but also gives opportunities to irresponsible outsiders to widen the breach, to the great detriment of commerce and trade, not to say of public convenience and public comfort. Your Excellency may rest assured that Government will have the support of our and our sister associations and, we may say, of the whole country in any measure that Government may think advisable to take to deal with and control strikes in a way just both to the employers and the employes.

We thank Your Excellency very gratefully for affording us this opportunity of approaching you with this address. we pray that Your Excellency's *régime* may continue to be blessed with ever success, and we wish Your Excellency and Lady Hardinge personally every happiness and prosperity.

INDIAN CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION OF MADRAS.

Your Excellency,—We humbly, but heartily, thank Your Excellency for graciously permitting us to approach you on this august occasion. Probably, this is the first time in the history of this or other Presidencies that an Association of Indian clergymen have ventured to present an address to the Viceroy. We thank God for most mercifully preserving Your Excellency's life from the assassin's hand and restoring you to speedy and perfect health from the injuries caused by the bomb. Our firm belief is that your precious life and strength have been preserved for the special benefit of the Indian people which has ever been Your Excellency's most anxious care.

Providence has placed us in spiritual charge of nearly ten thousand Protestant Indians in this city. This Conference of Indian ministers was organised about thirteen years ago with the object of promoting our mutual fellowship and the general welfare of the flocks scattered throughout South India, where the Christian Church was first founded, and where she has, by the blessing of God, achieved the greatest degree of success. Though we repre-

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sent not less than *ten* different branches of the Church of Christ. we cherish the not unreasonable hope that these will, in the near future, merge into a single national Indian Church and lay the foundation for one consolidated Indian nation. Our graduates number nearly a thousand, and to them and our educated women we look forward as humble factors in the promotion of India's welfare and prosperity. In this connection we thank Your Excellency for the boons recently granted in answer to our prayer, *vis.*, changing the appellation "Native Christians" into "Indian Christians" and "Natives" into "Indians." Both "Indians" and "Indian Christians" are becoming current phrases throughout India.

The early education of our children, we need not assure Your Excellency, is our greatest concern. On their early education and environment depends the healthy progress of our community. In former years our children were freely admitted into all European schools; and this we deemed a great privilege for all Christian pupils; at least in their tender and impressionable years, to be trained and taught in a Christian atmosphere and by Christian teachers. But recent regulations by the Government, over which Your Excellency presides, have introduced a peremptory check on this ancient and precious privilege. Though admissions to the extent of 10 per cent. are allowed, the restrictions are so many and severe that the concession has proved more injurious than profitable. The hardships thus inflicted on the children of our progressive community are considerable and quite unknown in other lands. To mention but a single instance: our children have been deprived of the scholarships founded for their special encouragement in the local Bishop Corrie's Grammar School. We understand, however, that, in Bombay and the United Provinces, the traditional privilege is unrestrictedly continued and Indian Christian pupils are not only permitted to read up to the highest form, but even appear for what are termed European examinations. If we are rightly informed as to this matter, may we crave Your Excellency, in consultation with the Government of Madras, to graciously remove the restrictions now in force in this Presidency and sanction the co-education of *all* Christian children, be they European, Anglo-Indian or Indian, provided the prescribed fees are paid. Such co-education, we respectfully urge, would promote a healthy rivalry and friendly intercourse and help not a little towards bridging the gulf that has unfortunately begun to separate Christian Indians and Anglo-Indians. It would also cement the cream of the youth of His

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Imperial Majesty's *Christian* subjects throughout the Indian Empire.

In conclusion, we earnestly pray that God, our Father, may preserve Your Excellency's life and health and that of the noble lady who has over stood by you in danger as well as in the daily discharge of duty, and enable you to complete the great tasks you have imposed on yourselves, while our fervent prayers will continue to ascend as hitherto to the Throne of Grace for Your Excellencies' long life and happiness.

CATHOLIC INDIAN ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHERN INDIA.

We, the members of the Catholic Indian Association of Southern India, beg leave to approach Your Excellency with this address of welcome. Our Association has members in all parts of Southern India, its total strength being over 1,500, representing more than half a million of Catholics, as returned by the last census of Southern India, and it is fully recognised by all the Catholic Archbishops and Bishops in Southern India. Its object is to draw closer the bond of union among Roman Catholic Indians and to watch over their rights and privileges as citizens of the British Empire.

We are rejoiced to meet in person Your Excellency, and we thank Divine Providence for having vouchsafed to restore you to perfect health after the dastardly attempt upon Your Excellency's life, made in December 1912, which we, in common with all other communities in British India, deplored and detested. We are equally glad to renew the universal testimony which the whole of the British Empire bore with one voice to the courage, patience and assiduous fidelity displayed by Her Excellency Lady Hardinge in the hour of peril, as well as during the anxious months of convalescence and recovery that followed. We wish that Your Excellencies may be spared for many years to fulfil your useful and exalted mission in life.

The history and present condition of Christianity in Southern India are well known, and we do not wish to detain Your Excellency with any lengthy description of our present position. It will suffice to say that, thanks to the labours of our missionaries during more than four centuries, and to the influence of Christianity, the Indian Christians have earned a definite place in the social organisation of Southern India, and are esteemed

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by their fellow-citizens on account of their progress in civilisation and education. For the majority of Indian Christians, education is practically the only passport to public recognition, because family connections and family property have in most cases to be abandoned on account of conversion to Christianity and a convert has practically to begin life over again. Still, Christianity has been sufficiently long among us to enable many Christian families to be founded with property, wealth, and connections of their own, and we trust that, under the beneficent auspices of British rule and with the progress of education, our Christian communities will gradually attain to success and prosperity. In this respect our hope rests in no small measure on our agricultural and industrial communities, who are to be found in many parts of Southern India occupying villages almost entirely Catholic, and who in not a few instances have availed themselves of the opportunities for thrift which are afforded by Co-operative Societies. A very large number of Catholics and of Christians generally in Southern India are no doubt still poor and belong to the humblest walks of life, but it has often been observed that it is precisely here that the ennobling, elevating and educating influence of Christianity is most felt.

This is scarcely the occasion for us to prefer requests to Your Excellency on behalf of our community, which is sincerely thankful for the benefits of British rule and which is behind no other community in its deep-rooted sentiments of loyalty, founded in its case on the teachings of religion. We beg to renew those sentiments to Your Excellency, who is the representative of our Most Gracious Sovereign, and in wishing Your Excellency and Lady Hardinge once more a hearty welcome to Southern India.

MADRAS PROVINCIAL CONGRESS COMMITTEE.

May it please Your Excellency,—On behalf of the Madras Provincial Congress Committee, we beg to approach Your Excellency with an expression of cordial welcome on this occasion of Your Excellency's visit to the capital of South India.

We, the citizens of the earliest of British possessions in the East, in common with the inhabitants of other parts of India, followed with the utmost thankfulness and joy the progress of Your Excellency's recovery from the effects of the dastardly crime that was attempted on the occasion of the State Entry into

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Delhi, and the entire population of this Province, keenly anxious about Your Excellency's safety, were profoundly touched when they read Your Excellency's strikingly gracious declaration that the wicked attempt had not changed your policy or attitude towards the country and its people.

We cherish with great gratitude and appreciation the high-minded and statesmanlike sagacity with which Your Excellency's Government have enunciated Provincial autonomy, properly safeguarded, as the goal of Indian administration, and trust that in Your Excellency's time the first great steps will be taken towards reaching this goal.

One of the greatest reforms for which we have for many long years been pleading, and of which Government have admitted both the justness and the necessity, is the separation of judicial from executive functions in all grades of the official hierarchy. Except for one small measure in this direction adopted long ago and acknowledged to be an unqualified success, no considerable step has so far been taken to remove an admitted defect in the administration, and we would commend this matter to Your Excellency's earnest and immediate attention.

The whole country has been stirred to the keenest resentment by the heartlessness with which, in violation of promises, the South African Government has passed an Immigration Law retaining most of the objectionable features of the original legislation. The Government of India can no longer, in our humble opinion, tolerate this state of things, but must seriously consider the measures retaliatory, if need be, which may be necessary for securing in the Colonies equal treatment for Indians with other classes of His Majesty's subjects.

Foremost of the many wants of this Presidency we would mention the imperative need of improving the economic condition of the people and of making an increased annual provision in the Budget for the extension of irrigation works, railway communications and harbour facilities in this part of the country.

We trust that the claims of these great objects to assistance from the Imperial Exchequer will receive generous consideration.

Another matter to which we would solicit Your Excellency's special attention is the great necessity of allowing the Madras Legislative Council to proceed with the amendment of the Religious Endowments Act of 1863, for which a Bill has recently been introduced. The conditions of these endowments are so peculiar to this Province that the experience of other parts of

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India ought not to be allowed to hinder reforms proved to be necessary here.

We would respectfully point out that, considering the great and many needs of this Presidency, it is only just that it should be allowed a larger portion of the revenue raised in it for its natural development. The extension of the elective principle so as to make the non-official majority in the local Legislative Council real and effective and the conferment on the Council of some control over Provincial finance, the improvement of local self-government on the lines recommended by the Decentralisation Commission, especially the constitution of village panchayats, increased provision for industrial and technical education, and the fixing of a definite limitation on the enhancement of land revenue at each resettlement, are some of the other problems of immediate interest awaiting the consideration of the Government.

We welcome to our city and Presidency along with Your Excellency the gracious Lady who shares with rare courage and devotion the trials and anxieties of your exalted office, and we fervently pray to God that He may grant you both long life and ever-increasing happiness.

CO-OPERATORS OF THE MADRAS PRESIDENCY.

May it please Your Excellency,—We, the Co-operators of the Madras Presidency, respectfully welcome Your Excellency to this Province. We tender our loyal and heartfelt thanks to the Government of India for the initiation of the co-operative movement and for the cordial and encouraging support given to it by Your Excellency. We trust that this movement, in which His Gracious Majesty the King-Emperor foresaw a great and glorious future for the agricultural interests of this country, will continue to receive unabated support from Your Excellency's Government.

INDIAN COMMERCIAL COMMUNITY OF MADRAS.

May it please Your Excellency,—On behalf of the Indian commercial community of this Presidency, we beg to offer Your Excellency and Her Excellency Lady Hardinge our most hearty welcome.

We rejoice that by the grace of Providence Your Excellencies have been spared to us, and we share the universal appreciation of

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your magnificent courage and sympathy under the most extraordinary and trying circumstances.

This is not the occasion to recount the benefits of Your Excellency's administration, but we wish to express our heartfelt gratitude, with the rest of the country, for the good and beneficent influence Your Excellencies have exercised over all the varied concerns of the numerous millions of this vast continent.

There have been great strides in the progress of our port facilities with the timely and generous assistance of the Government of Madras and the Government of India; and we eagerly anticipate that, when the works now in hand and those about to be undertaken are brought to completion, we will have an excellent up-to-date port in Madras to the great and growing advantage of Madras trade.

Your Excellency is doubtless aware that, as compared with the sister Presidencies, this Presidency has been slow to develop her natural resources so conducive to her material prosperity, and we are looking forward to the improvement and expansion of our industries, to the development of manufacture and agriculture, and to the great advance of commerce. We earnestly hope that, in the consideration of these important questions that are likely to come up before the Government of Your Excellency, they will receive that sympathetic encouragement which has been the keynote of Your Excellency's administration.

We fervently pray that Your Excellencies may enjoy long life, health and happiness.

MEMBERS OF THE INTERNATIONAL ORDER OF GOOD
TEMPLARS OF SOUTHERN INDIA.

May it please Your Excellency,—On behalf of the members of the International Order of Good Templars in the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Southern India, we beg most respectfully to welcome Your Excellency and Lady Hardinge to this historic city of Madras.

Our hearts overflow with gratitude to God for having divinely interposed and frustrated the wicked and cowardly design of the assassin, and most heartily do we rejoice that Your Excellencies' lives have been so miraculously spared. We venture to give expression of our deep sense of respect and admiration towards Your Excellency's person, and we take this opportunity of assuring Your Excellency of our unswerving loyalty and devotion to His Imperial Majesty the King-Emperor.

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It may interest Your Excellency to learn that the Order which we have the honour to represent on this auspicious occasion is by far the largest Temperance Organisation in the world. It had its origin in 1851 in Central New York, where it sprang up in a very humble way. Soon it spread widely in the United States and in the Dominion of Canada. Taking no time for repose, it crossed the Atlantic and spread rapidly in England, Scotland, Ireland and Wales. Following in the wake of Great Britain's commercial activities, it soon reached Australia, New Zealand, Tasmania, South Africa, Madagascar, Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Germany, Switzerland, India, China, Japan, South America and Sandwich Islands, the islands of the Mediterranean, Bermuda, Jamaica, and the other islands of the seas, and at the present time its influence sweeps nearly every nation and tongue on the face of the globe. In its objects and operations it occupies a broad platform. The Universal Fatherhood of God and the Universal Brotherhood of Man are its cardinal principles, and as such no one need be shut out from the pale of its blessed influences.

Since the introduction of this world-wide Brotherhood in this Presidency thirty-three years ago, the members thereof jointly, severally, and in conjunction with kindred organisations have been working unostentatiously for the improvement of the physical and moral tone of the various communities. Encouraged by the fact that the question of temperance is one of those subjects which intimately concern the future of India, the members of our various Lodges have been ever active in inculcating the principles of total abstinence among all classes and creeds. Public opinion is now more alive to the seriousness of the question, and we have to gratefully recognise that Government has never been more ready than it is to-day to listen to the representations of temperance reformers, and to profess its sympathy with the objects which they have in view.

We rejoice in the very clear pronouncement made by the Secretary of State, in reply to the temperance deputation that waited on him. Lord Crewe recognised the strength of the case for reform; and although he would not commit himself to a complete application of the principle of local option, he admitted the desirability of improving, as far as possible, the machinery of the Advisory Committee, and he promised to convey the suggestions made to him on this and other matters to the Government of India. We feel sure we are expressing the views of kindred societies when we say we are grateful for the attention that is devoted to the moral and

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economic aspects of the drink problem, and while admitting the growing efficiency with which this great department is administered, we cannot help but view with grave concern the steady, continuous and enormous increase in the drink revenue of this land. This large expansion of revenue points to the need of further reform in order to check the undoubted spread and, as many of us think, the deplorable increase in the drink habit. It is also our conviction that it is of the utmost importance that the children and young people of this land should be well grounded in temperance, truth, and with this end in view we strongly recommend that lessons on temperance be included in a suitable shape in the curriculum of studies in schools and colleges. We earnestly hope and trust that the time is not far distant when such radical reforms will be introduced as will tend to effectively checkmate the further progress of intemperance, and thus enable the peoples of this ancient land to preserve their great heritage of sobriety.

In conclusion, we thank Your Excellency very heartily for having afforded us the opportunity of welcoming Your Excellency and Lady Hardinge to this city, and trust that Your Excellencies will carry away very pleasing recollections of your visit to this Presidency.

ALL-INDIA SUB-ASSISTANT SURGEONS' ASSOCIATION.

May it please Your Excellency,—On behalf of the Madras branch of the All-India Sub-Assistant Surgeons' Association, we beg to approach Your Excellency on this occasion of Your Excellency's first visit to South India, in order to give expression to our feelings of loyalty to His Most Gracious Majesty the King-Emporor, whom Your Excellency so worthily represents, and to convey to Your Excellency our respectful assurances of unswerving faithfulness in the discharge of the duties devolving upon us as humble members of the medical profession.

We belong to a branch of the medical department in this Presidency, which was organised over fifty years ago, for helping European Surgeons in their work. This branch has passed through various phases corresponding to the increased efficiency of the work done by it from time to time. During all these years its members have been the pioneers of applied Western medical science in rural parts, where a great deal of prejudice and suspicion caused by ignorance and conservatism has to be overcome before the people could appreciate its benefits. To-day more than 60 per cent. of the

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660 hospitals and dispensaries in this Presidency is in the sole charge of the members of our class of medical subordinates who number on the whole 600. Of these, 100 men are private practitioners, both in the city of Madras and in the districts, and the rest are in Government service. More than half are in independent charge of dispensaries and hospitals, and of the rest a few are employed as assistants in city hospitals, while a considerable number discharge, at great risk to their lives, important duties in areas affected by cholera, plague, malaria and similar diseases.

We mention these facts because it gives us great satisfaction to think that, in days when the gospel of social service had not come to be so generally preached as it is now, we were privileged under the command and supervision of a benign and paternal Government to practise principles and precepts of social service by alleviating pain and relieving the poor, especially in out-of-the-way places and among the neglected communities badly in need of such help. It is this consciousness of being an important and useful limb of public service and a means of revealing to the masses the beneficent aims of the Government that has prompted us to organise ourselves into an Association in South India, consisting at present of 350 members, affiliated to the All-India Sub-Assistant Surgeons' Association consisting of 2,000 members, whose main object during the seven years of its existence has been to increase our efficiency, and thus to promote the interests of the suffering masses among whom we have to labour.

We need not say how glad we are to see Your Excellency face to face. As members of the medical profession, we took a more than civic interest in Your Excellency's health during the dark and painful months which have elapsed since the dastardly attack upon Your Excellency's person in December last; and many of us wished that we were given the privilege and opportunity of rendering some service, however humble, to Your Excellency in co-operation with the "Ministering Angel," who stood by your bedside, sharing Your Excellency's sufferings and alleviating them at the same time.

Thanking Your Excellency most heartily for granting us the privilege of presenting this humble address and praying that Heaven's choicest blessings may be showered on Your Excellency and Lady Hardinge.

His Excellency replied as follows to the foregoing addresses :—]

Gentlemen,—Before I say anything in reply to your individual addresses, I am sure you will acquite me of

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any discourtesy if I thank you collectively for the very hearty chorus of welcome with which you have greeted me to your Presidency and your city.

• Madras is rather a far cry from my head-quarters in Northern India, and it is practically impossible for a Viceroy to visit you more than once in his term of office, but I have noticed that the experience of my predecessors has been like my own, and that nowhere in India can the King's representative count upon a more cordial and loyal reception than here in Madras—one of the earliest footholds of England's Indian Empire.

You have, with one voice of sympathy and concern, referred to the peril through which my wife and I passed last year, and I speak for Lady Hardinge, no less than for myself, when I thank you from the bottom of my heart for your kind and friendly words.

It is our earnest wish that our lives, which were spared through the mercy of Divine Providence, may prove of some use during the remainder of our sojourn in India to the millions entrusted to my care.

To you, *Gentlemen, who represent the Mussalmans of Southern India*, let me say first a word of thanks that, at this moment of welcoming me to Madras, you have given me a real welcome, and have excluded from your address all but the barest reference to one or two of those controversial topics which have troubled your community during the past few years.

I do not make the mistake of thinking that, because you do not press me for a pronouncement upon any of them, they are not present to your minds; on the contrary, I trace the self-restraint which you have exercised to a conviction that I have not been without deep sympathy with you alike in your aspirations after a fuller and

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higher part in the life and light and progress of your country, and in the pain which you have felt at the difficulties with which Islam has been beset in various parts of the world. Indeed, the allusion you have made to recent unhappy incidents at Cawnpore shows that you fully appreciate the substantial testimony then given by my Government of their respect for the religious feelings of your community.

Of the societies which you more particularly represent, all have in view the amelioration of your community and two devote special attention to education. I note with particular satisfaction the interest which you take in that subject, for education, wisely developed, admittedly lies at the root of all true progress. The Government of India and the Local Government are doing their best to help you. In improved education your salvation lies, and this you have realised. I believe that more special educational facilities are given to Mussalmans in Madras than in any other part of India, and there has been a very rapid extension in recent years, but I am told that it has been almost entirely confined to the lower stages of instruction, and I would draw your earnest attention to the necessity of giving the pick of your young men the highest possible education, if you wish to hold your own under modern conditions of life. We are doing our part and I doubt not that you will do yours.

Gentlemen of the Madras Chamber of Commerce and of the Indian Commercial Community,—I much appreciate the grateful references that you have made to the sympathetic treatment accorded by Government to the various schemes put forward by the Trustees of your port. In addition to the grant of 20 lakhs and the loans by means of which the initial scheme was financed, a further loan of 50 lakhs was granted last March for the provision

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and equipment of quays. The improvements already effected, under the advice of Sir Francis Spring, have been most successful, and the additional facilities now to be provided will materially advance the growing popularity of your port.

I must congratulate you upon the growth of the trade of the Presidency; five years ago your foreign and coasting trade combined amounted to less than 44½ crores of rupees, but last year the figure mounted up to over 54 crores, to which the Madras port alone contributed over 21 crores.

With regard to the coast ports, I am sorry to learn of the abuses that you mention, and I can only say that no official representation has as yet reached my Government on the subject. *Prima facie*, the legislation you suggest strikes me as being of a somewhat drastic character, and I think we should be loth to agree to it until special police measures of a less extraordinary character had been given the fullest possible trial, and I am informed that the patrol launch employed at Cocanada had a marked effect in suppressing offences of the character you indicate. The launch, I understand, fell into disrepair, but I feel confident that your Government will take early steps, if they have not done so already, to get it once more into working order. I know that they have been considering special police measures at Cuddalore and Negapatam, and I am sure that they will be ready to investigate and remedy similar complaints from any other port, whose case may be specially brought to their notice.

The creation of a separate Department of Industries has recently been sanctioned for Madras, in the hope that it may further the industrial progress of this Presidency. Its work will be of a somewhat experimental

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nature, but it will start on its career with the best wishes of us all, and the results of its labours will be watched with the greatest interest in every part of India.

I note with interest your reference to the Royal Commission on Indian Finance and Currency, and I share your satisfaction at this authoritative re-examination of our financial arrangements in India and at home. We have moved a long way in these matters since their consideration by the Indian Currency Committee of 1898, and the conditions which present themselves to us to-day after 14 years of effective prosecution of our gold standard policy, are in many ways very different from any which could be foreseen when the Report of the earlier Committee was framed. We shall await the recommendations of the Commission with the utmost interest, and without any such prepossessions or commitments as would preclude us from giving them that full and attentive consideration to which the views of such a body are clearly entitled.

As your address points out, the question of the employment of surplus Government balances cannot be permanently settled until the recommendations of the Royal Commission are before us. You will, however, have already learnt from a communication recently made to the Press that we have considered the matter with reference to the present busy season and have obtained the Secretary of State's sanction to certain important proposals. We are now in a position, if need arises, to make loans through the Presidency Banks to a substantial extent, and on terms, as regards interest, which are no longer prohibitive; the old condition that such loans could only be granted at the prevailing bank rate, being now replaced by permission to lend at one per cent. below that rate. I need not detail the further conditions attaching to such loans, but content myself with a brief

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reference to the question in order to remind you that it has received our full attention, and that we are in no way disposed to adopt an unduly rigid attitude. You must remember, too, that our surplus funds have also been very freely placed at the disposal of trade by the unusually heavy drawings of the Secretary of State, and that there is no longer that large temporary accumulation of money in our balances which existed a little time ago and perhaps inspired your present comments.

When we put forward the proposals to which I have referred, we anticipated an exceptionally busy and prosperous trade season; the monsoon promised to be wholly favourable; and the commercial sky was not at that time overcast. We were thinking solely of finding some means to alleviate the special stringency to which the money market is naturally subject at such times. Since then, however, the conditions have undergone a most unfortunate change. I do not refer so much to the less favourable agricultural position, though this is serious and regrettable. I am thinking more particularly of the severe banking and commercial crisis through which the country is now passing. The disturbance of credit which originated in the first banking failures in the Punjab has extended in some degree to Northern India generally; while in the storm centre at Bombay the crisis has already produced calamitous results. I shall not attempt to indicate the causes to which these troubles may be attributed; but I wish to emphasise two points. In the first place, we have felt that in these exceptional conditions the Government of India ought not to take up an attitude of entire aloofness and detachment. We have closely followed the course of events, and where it has been possible and legitimate to do so, we have given timely assistance. I am glad to say that there has been no undue disposition to look to Government for help.

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Such help as we can properly give is limited in extent, and necessarily subject to conditions and safeguards. But what we could do has been, and will continue to be, done.

Secondly, I wish to say a word about the future. These failures have inevitably aroused some distrust in Indian banking institutions, and the feeling of disquiet is not likely to be quickly removed. We must all deplore the set-back which these events must be expected to give to the tendency which has been so pronounced in recent years for the savings of the people to be increasingly applied in investment and industrial enterprise. In spite of inexperience, or recklessness, the movement was sound in itself. Indeed, it is a necessary condition of India's development and prosperity; and I am convinced that it will be maintained, in spite of temporary checks. If the Indian investor is taught by these events to be more careful to distinguish between sound and unsound undertakings, or if they pave the way for some better system of regulation and protection, they will not have been unfruitful of beneficent result. Meanwhile, I earnestly hope that the legitimate caution which these misfortunes inspire will not degenerate into unreasoning dismay, the only outcome of which must be to confound the good with the bad, and bring heavy loss upon investors and depositors whose money is lodged with inherently sound institutions.

I am fully in accord with your desire for the construction of new feeder lines of railways to develop the different districts of your Presidency, and I understand that, during the last few months, the prospect has very largely improved. Your District Boards and land-owners have for many years shown the greatest enterprise in accumulating funds for the construction of local railways, but there has been a difficulty in raising the balance of the capital required before many of these

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District Board Railways could be built. I am assured that this difficulty has now been overcome by the efforts of the Madras Government, and that terms have been arranged under which the Bank of Madras is prepared to lend a considerable sum to District Boards on their railway debentures. Besides this, I understand that different firms have advanced or are putting forward proposals to construct feeders under branch line terms—proposals which, if supported by your Local Government, will receive every consideration at the hands of the Government of India.

There seems therefore every likelihood of the early construction of several feeder lines in your Presidency, the capital being found in India—a point to which I attach considerable importance.

Gentlemen of the Madras Landholders' Association,—
The names of your office-bearers are a sufficient evidence, if evidence were needed, that the claim of loyalty and devotion to the Imperial Throne made in your address is no empty phrase-making, and that your further claim to represent the landed aristocracy of the province is well founded. That aristocracy has an interesting history and I hope a bright future. It provided the first Indian Member of the Governor's Executive Council, and it is believed that the passing of the Impartible Estates Act of 1904 has materially improved the status, and so indirectly strengthened the position in the body politic of the greater landholders. I have been told that your association has throughout advocated its strongly held views on the subject of the relation between landlord and tenant in proprietary estates with great ability and moderation, and I can only assure you that any further suggestions for amending the present law preferred in the same spirit are assured of sympathetic consideration from the Local and Supreme Governments.

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Gentlemen of the Mahajana Sabha and of the Madras Provincial Congress Committee,—The addresses you have done me the honour to present cover practically the same ground, and I trust therefore I may be excused if I answer you together.

The separation of judicial from executive functions is a question that has been discussed for a number of years at great length and from many points of view, but I fear I am not in a position to make a pronouncement on the subject; I will, however, see that the statement of your views, which you have laid before me, is added to the somewhat portentous mass of literature on this topic that is now before the Government of India.

The position of Indians in South Africa has for some years past received the most anxious consideration of the Government of India, and, as the Mahajana Sabha acknowledge, they are doing all that lies in their power to ensure fair treatment for Indians residing within the Union.

The Act of which you complain has in practice the effect of putting a stop to Asiatic emigration to South Africa, though it does not discriminate in so many words against Asiatics. We have, however, succeeded in securing the privilege of entry for a limited number of educated Indians annually. We have also made special endeavours to secure as favourable terms as possible for Indians already resident in the Union, and our efforts have resulted in the inclusion of provisions for the right of appeal to the Courts on points of law, and of a definition of domicile, in accordance with which the position of Indians, who entered the Union otherwise than under indenture, has been satisfactorily laid down.

We are at the present moment in communication with the Secretary of State regarding other restrictions

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contained in the Act to which we take exception, and we trust that our representations may not be without result.

You have urged in your address that retaliatory measures should be taken by the Government of India, but you have not attempted to state the particular measures which in your opinion should be adopted. As you are aware, we forbade indentured emigration to Natal in 1911; and the fact that the Natal planters sent a delegate over to India, to beg for a reconsideration of that measure, shows how hardly it hit them. But I am afraid it has had but little effect upon South Africa as a whole, and it is unfortunately not easy to find means by which India can make her indignation seriously felt by those who hold the reins of Government in that country.

Recently your compatriots in South Africa have taken matters into their own hands by organising what is called passive resistance to laws which they consider invidious and unjust—an opinion which we who watch their struggles from afar cannot but share.

They have violated, as they intended to violate, those laws, with full knowledge of the penalties involved, and ready with all courage and patience to endure those penalties. In all this they have the sympathy of India—deep and burning—and not only of India, but of all those who like myself, without being Indians themselves, have feelings of sympathy for the people of this country.

But the most recent developments have taken a very serious turn, and we have seen the widest publicity given to allegations that this movement of passive resistance has been dealt with by measures which would not for a moment be tolerated in any country that claims to call itself civilised.

These allegations have been met by a categorical denial from the responsible Government of South Africa,

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though even their denial contains admissions which do not seem to me to indicate that the Union Government have exercised a very wise discretion in some of the steps which they have adopted. That is the position at this moment, and I do feel that if the South African Government desire to justify themselves in the eyes of India and the world only one course is open to them, and that is to appoint a strong and impartial committee, upon which Indian interests shall be fully represented, to conduct a thorough and searching enquiry into the truth of these allegations; and as the *communiqué* that has appeared in this morning's papers will show you, I have not hesitated to press that view upon the Secretary of State. Now that, according to telegraphic accounts received in this country from South Africa, such disorder as arose has completely ceased, I trust that the Government of the Union will fully realise the imperative necessity of treating a loyal section of their fellow-subjects in a spirit of equity and in accordance with their rights as free citizens of the British Empire. You may rest assured that the Government of India will not cease to urge these considerations upon His Majesty's Government.

The amendment of the Religious Endowments Act of 1863 is a question about which much has been written and said over a series of years. The policy of Government, as embodied in that Act, is one, broadly speaking, of non-intervention with the religious affairs of the people, and for this reason any interference by the officers of Government with the management of these religious trusts has been consistently discouraged, although the assistance of the Civil Courts in checking cases of abuse can be invoked by the institution of proceedings. The main principle underlying that policy is probably one which still commends itself to the majority of people in

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this country. But I am aware that, in Madras particularly, the view is held by many persons that the law, as it stands, is insufficient to check the misapplication and waste of these endowments, and this sentiment has manifested itself in various proposals which have from time to time been put forward for the amendment of the law, especially in the direction of requiring the periodical publication of audited accounts. In fact, a Bill to amend the Religious Endowments Act of 1863 was sought to be introduced last year in the local Legislative Council by the Hon'ble Mr. Seshagiri Aiyar, and about the same time a Bill bearing upon the same subject was promoted by the Hon'ble Sir Ibrahim Rahimtoola in Bombay. It is the case that earlier proposals to effect changes in the law did not commend themselves to the Government of India, who were actuated by a scrupulous desire to respect the religious susceptibilities of those interested in these endowments. But in connection with the two Bills mentioned, Government have given their careful consideration to the possibility of finding some solution which, while avoiding this risk, might yet do something to ensure a higher standard of management in these endowments than is sometimes alleged to exist, and they are at the moment in correspondence with the Secretary of State on the subject. I am sanguine that some line of action may be agreed upon which will commend itself to all concerned, and if the advocates of this reform are inclined to be impatient that the progress made has not been more rapid, they must remember that the question is not solely of provincial interest, while even in Madras there are probably many who are more conservative in their views, and for whose opinions Government cannot but have regard.

In reply to the references you have made to the rules and regulations for the working of the Legislative Coun-

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cils, I would like to remind you that constitutional changes are in no country of rapid growth. The new scheme of reforms only came into effect in 1910, and the year 1913 is not yet finished. The only changes that have been made in the new constitution of the Councils, and in the regulations which govern them, were modifications required to give effect to the territorial changes announced at the Delhi Durbar, and to remove minor defects in the new machinery which interfered with their smooth working. No attempt was made, or can be made at present, to alter the nature of the scheme of reform so recently hailed as making an enormous advance on the system previously existing; and if you are under the impression that under present conditions the influence of non-official members is unreal or ineffective, I can confidently assure you from a very considerable experience that that impression is entirely incorrect.

Towards the extension of irrigational facilities the Government of India will continue to pursue the same sympathetic policy in the future as they have followed in the past, and it may interest you to know that the capital expenditure upon such works in Madras amounted in the last decade to more than a crore and three quarters, bringing the total up to nearly 10 crores. Besides the projects in progress, there are a number under consideration, including the two great schemes known as the Cauvery and the Kistna Reservoir projects.

I have already referred to the question of the improvements in the Port of Madras in my reply to the Chamber of Commerce, and I need only observe that I believe your Government are giving very considerable attention to increasing the facilities of your other harbours, and that any proposals they may make in this sense to the Government of India shall be received and considered with the most careful attention.

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To the remarks I have already made in reply to another address on the subject of railway communications, let me add that our railway programme this year has reached a maximum figure of £12 millions. We shall do our utmost to maintain a high standard of capital expenditure in the future, but recent conditions in Europe have been very unfavourable to sterling borrowing; and the amount which we can raise in this country is also limited. It is, therefore, with special satisfaction that I have witnessed the increasing outflow of Indian capital to branch lines of railway, and the efforts of the Madras Boards to find funds locally for small feeder lines.

To turn to your provincial resources, I cannot but think that this Presidency has been exceptionally fortunate. The share of its revenues which is available for provincial requirements is large and rapidly increasing; indeed the present excess of revenue over obligatory expenditure amounts, I understand, to something like a quarter of a million pounds a year. The province, too, has large accumulated balances, amounting at the beginning of this year to one and a half million, of which about two-thirds of a million represented the unspent balance of grants made by the Government of India in recent years, as an addition to the revenues permanently assigned for provincial purposes. I trust that these figures will convince you that we have not been illiberal in our treatment of the Presidency.

Gentlemen of the Anglo-Indian Association of Southern India,—I am pleased to hear that you recognise the value of education and have made efforts to enable deserving pupils to prosecute their studies. So long ago as 1860 Lord Canning advocated self-help, with liberal aid from Government, as the proper policy to be pursued in European education. It is a policy in accordance with which Government have continued to act, and the

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grants from public funds are now many multiples of what they were 50 years ago. The Government of India have recently paid especial attention to this subject, as is evident from your appreciative mention of the conference held at Simla in 1912. The first-fruits of that discussion have already manifested themselves in further liberal grants for the education of the domiciled community, including a special recurring grant (over and above the share allotted to the Presidency) of thirty thousand rupees a year for the instruction of the poorer classes of that community in Madras city. The further proposals of Local Governments on the important resolutions of that conference are now awaited and will receive my sympathetic consideration. Your address makes mention of two particular matters—the provision of hostels at colleges, and the extension of the system of granting scholarships for study in England. Hostels are a subject to which I and my Government have recently paid a very great deal of attention, and for which we have made very large allocations of funds to the various provinces, and I must leave it to you to settle with your own Government whether you can make out a good case for a separate share of these benevolences. The creation to which you have referred of an annual scholarship of £200 for girls is in itself a step of considerable magnitude, and I am afraid I cannot hold out any hope of a further advance in this direction in the immediate future.

Your Association appear to be under a misapprehension in regard to the non-eligibility of Anglo-Indians to enlist in the regular Army. The Indian Army Regulations admit of such enlistment, subject to the condition that the father and maternal grandfather or mother and paternal grandfather of a candidate are of pure European origin, or that he is the child of a marriage between persons of this descent. The report of the Committee to which you refer is still under the consideration of my

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Government, and I am unable to forecast the conclusions at which we may arrive; but if it is, as I understand it is, your desire that regiments composed entirely of Anglo-Indians should be raised, I am afraid there must be misunderstanding as to the numbers of recruits that would be forthcoming, for I do not think I shall be committing an indiscretion if I tell you that the evidence recorded clearly indicated that a very small number indeed of suitable candidates would be willing to enlist in a separate unit.

When the scheme for the constitution of the enlarged Councils was issued in 1909, it was decided to retain the nominations to a few seats in order that representation might be accorded from time to time to the interest and classes which would not normally return many members, but whose advice ought to be advantageous, possibly with reference to any particular piece of legislation which might be before the Councils at the moment, or possibly from a more general standpoint. The seats thus reserved are few, while the claims which are advanced to them from time to time are many and various. While therefore most anxious that the interests represented by the Anglo-Indian community should receive full and fair recognition in the distribution of nominations, I am unwilling to tie my own hands in the case of the Imperial Council or those of heads of provinces in respect of the Provincial Councils by introducing a definite rule in favour of the Anglo-Indian community, while the substitution of a system of election for that of nomination is complicated by the difficulty of substituting an electorate which would be altogether satisfactory.

In your address you bring to my notice the recent railway strike in Southern India, and urge that legislation should be passed to prevent strikes, and that effective laws be framed to control strikes and deal with them

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promptly at the outset, so that they may be prevented from spreading. This is a request which requires very great consideration, and I cannot commit myself to any definite expression of opinion as to whether the legislation you suggest is desirable, and, if the laws you propose were enacted, whether they would be successful in securing your object. The Government of India have been closely watching the attempts made in other countries to control strikes by legislation, Conciliation Boards and other means; and if you will examine the condition of affairs at the present moment in those countries, it would not appear that the steps so far taken have been crowned with any particular success. I feel confident that none of the railway administrations of India are actuated by a desire to deal harshly with their employés, and that they are, on the contrary, prepared to deal fairly with them. As an instance, I may remind you that, within the last two years, a scheme of retiring gratuities has been brought into operation on all the railways in India under which an employé, retiring after a period of continuous and faithful service, receives a very substantial sum. We all have grievances, some are reasonable and some quite unreasonable, and I venture to think that if employers and employés would cultivate a better understanding with each other, and endeavour to fully appreciate the grievances on one side, and the difficulty which sometimes exists in removing them on the other side, we should hear less of strikes with all the inconvenience they cause to the public, and all the misery to the families of those who throw up their appointments and lose their means of livelihood.

To you, Gentlemen, who represent the *Co-operative Societies of Madras*, I will only say that it has given me particular pleasure to receive your loyal address.

The progress of co-operative organisation in the Madras Presidency has been most satisfactory, and the

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prospects of its further expansion are full of promise. The success of the movement in this Presidency is the more gratifying, since the chief pioneer of co-operation in India was Sir Frederic Nicholson, a Madras officer. I am well aware of the importance of the movement and of its great present value, and still greater potential value, in advancing the interests of agriculture in India; and you, who have thrown yourselves into the work with so much public spirit, may rest assured that your efforts will never fail to receive the sympathy and support of Government.

Gentlemen of the Catholic Indian Association,—You have refrained from placing before me any special requests, but I doubt not that in many matters your difficulties are analogous to those of the Indian Christian Association, and I trust therefore you will take to yourselves such remarks as may be applicable in the observations I shall now make to that body, but first let me heartily congratulate you both upon the progress you have made, and the position you hold in the matter of education.

In the address which you, *Gentlemen of the Indian Christian Association*, have presented to me, perhaps the most important questions raised concern your matrimonial relations, and I must say at once that I am unable to deal with them at this time and place. All the points you mention have at one time or another been before my Government, who have found them to bristle with difficulties. I am willing to maintain an open mind about them and can promise you the most careful consideration of any representations you may make through your Local Government, but you must excuse me from making on this occasion any pronouncement upon so thorny a topic.

You will doubtless agree with me that your claims are stronger to representation on the Provincial than on

Addresses from various bodies at Madras.

the Imperial Council, since your weight and influence are proportionately greater in the Madras Presidency than in India as a whole and, as a matter of fact, I understand that an Indian Christian—sometimes a Roman Catholic and sometimes of some other denomination—has in practice usually found a place upon the Presidency Legislative Council, and I am quite sure that, in distributing his nominations, Lord Pentland is not likely to overlook your interests.

But there are claims from other quarters, which have to be considered; and, with every desire to deal sympathetically with your request, it seems to me essential that the discretion of your Governor must be left unfettered. Owing to the difficulty in constituting a suitable electorate which would represent all sections, the system of nomination seems calculated to give results which will probably be more satisfactory to the community as a whole, and there is no reason to apprehend that the system will not be worked with justice to all.

I am glad to learn that members of your community are included in the Indian Civil Service, but I believe they are of comparatively junior standing, and, as you know, promotion to the higher offices proceeds upon definite lines which are independent of the interests of a particular community.

As your representatives in the services prove their merit and establish their reputations, they will certainly in due course receive at the hands of the Local Government the recognition to which they are entitled, and meantime I take this opportunity of congratulating you upon having found amongst your number the first Indian who has attained the distinction of becoming a Bishop of the Anglican community.

Gentlemen, I have now replied, though I am afraid some of you may think inadequately, to the various ad-

Laying Foundation Stone of Madras University Library.

dressess which have been presented to me to-day. To those who are dissatisfied I will only urge two pleas in mitigation of my shortcomings. The first is that some of the topics to which you refer are matters within the competence of your own Local Government, with which it would not be proper for me, as the head of the Government of India, to interfere, unless and until they come before my Government through those regular channels, which are known to all, and if my experience is to be trusted, do not present any peculiar difficulties of navigation. The other is that topics of more directly Imperial interest are so constantly ventilated and discussed in the Imperial Legislative Council that it is but seldom, under present conditions, that a Viceroy is in a position to make elsewhere, upon the burning questions of the day, any new pronouncement.

I will now conclude my remarks, and in doing so let me thank you once more for the good-will you have shown and the good wishes you have expressed. They will help me to shoulder my burden with good cheer and to speed me on my way with the happiest memories of your city, and you may rest assured that I shall not fail to convey to His Gracious Majesty, our King-Emperor, those messages of loyal devotion expressed in some and implied in all of the addresses I have received to-day.

LAYING FOUNDATION STONE OF MADRAS UNIVERSITY LIBRARY.

25th Nov.
1913.

[The Viceroy and Lord Pentland left Government House at 7-35 o'clock on the morning of the 25th November with an escort of the Governor's Bodyguard and arrived at the site of the new buildings, situated close to the Senate House. Sir John Wallis, Vice-Chancellor, met His Excellency and Lord Pentland, who was dressed in the robes of his office as Chancellor of the University, at the foot of the *daṛs* and conducted them to their seats, having first presented the members of the Senate.

Laying Foundation Stone of Madras University Library.

Sir John then read an address on behalf of himself as Vice-Chancellor and the Fellows of the University. In the address reference was made to the increased interest in the vernaculars which had followed on the introduction of vernacular composition into the intermediate examination, and to the closer relations which had been established between the University and its affiliated colleges, the encouragement given to the hostel system, the development of a fuller college life and the great improvements in staff equipment. He also announced that a donation of Rs. 10,000 had been received from Mr. P. Rama Rayaningar towards the building of the University Library.

His Excellency then read his address from a *daiv*, while opposite was the foundation stone backed by a semi-circular stand on which was seated a large and very enthusiastic gathering of students.

The address was as follows :—]

Gentlemen,—One of the most honourable prerogatives of a Viceroy is the dignity of the position he holds as Chancellor of the Calcutta University, but it is a dignity which carries with it no small sense of responsibility, for I always feel that the Universities of India represent the quintessence of India's cultivated intellect, and that their rarefied atmosphere conduces to the development of a critical faculty before which all but the most learned and accomplished scholars may well quail.

You will understand then that I appreciate very highly the great honour you have done me in asking me to take part in this ceremony, and I can assure you that, whatever may be my shortcomings as a man of learning, I take the greatest possible interest in University progress, and should like nothing better than to be able to think, when I leave these shores, that I had left University education strongly established on sound and durable foundations.

It was a source of great satisfaction to my Government to be able last year to make liberal grants with the object of enabling you to make a definite step forward,

Laying Foundation Stone of Madras University Library.

and I congratulate you upon the decision you have taken for the provision of a suitable library, together with rooms for the delivery of lectures by University Professors; and I have no doubt that, by adding to your own library the Government collection of Oriental manuscripts, you will enormously increase the scope of your Professorships in Oriental and Dravidian languages. You have realised the imperative necessity of a well-selected library if your post-graduate teaching is to prove a success, and I gather that you are also alive to the importance of securing, for the arrangement and conduct of such teaching, men who can claim to be specialists in their own various subjects.

I have listened with great interest to the account you have given of the progress you have made in various directions.

The Act of 1904 widened the scope of activity of the Universities by imposing upon them teaching functions, in addition to the examining functions which they had possessed before, and the objects on which the University of Madras have proposed to spend the liberal grants made by the Government of India appear to be well-devised for the purpose of carrying out this intention. The care you are bestowing upon the cultivation of the vernaculars is a noteworthy feature from which much may be hoped, and I trust that the new organisation for Oriental study will meet with success. The acceptance by the University of the secondary school-leaving certificate is calculated to foster the best interests of higher school education by permitting elasticity in the courses and involving a less rigid system of examinations.

Speaking generally, what you have told me of the work you have been doing fills me with hope for the future and affords a guarantee to any gentleman who is moved by your appeal—an appeal which I heartily

*Address from Madras Corporation and opening of New
Municipal Offices.*

endorse and of a response to which I am very glad to see a commencement—and comes forward with benefactions to your University, such as those which have recently been so liberally bestowed in other Presidencies, that his generosity will not be abused or wasted, but will, on the contrary, be utilised in the wisest way for the development of higher education in Madras.

In proceeding now to lay this foundation stone, let me thank you for the extremely kind welcome you have given to Lady Hardinge and myself, as well as for the honour you have done me in inviting me to undertake so pleasurable a task.

ADDRESS FROM MADRAS CORPORATION AND OPENING
OF NEW MUNICIPAL OFFICES.

[His Excellency the Viceroy opened the New Municipal offices at Madras on the morning of the 26th November. On arrival at the buildings His Excellency was met by Mr. Moore, I.C.S., the President, and conducted to a *dais* close to the gate. Mr. Moore then read the following address:—

26th Nov.
1913.

May it please Your Excellency,—We, the Municipal Commissioners of the Corporation, on behalf of the citizens of Madras, offer Your Excellency and Her Excellency Lady Hardinge a most sincere and cordial welcome to our city.

We avail ourselves of this opportunity to express once more the horror and detestation with which the news of the dastardly attempt on Your Excellency's life at Delhi was received in this city; and we tender Your Excellency our most hearty congratulations on your restoration to health; Your Excellency's progress towards recovery was watched with the deepest anxiety and solicitude, and it was with feelings of thankfulness and relief that we learnt at last that Your Excellency was able to resume the discharge of the onerous duties of your high office. The courage and fortitude displayed by Her Excellency evoked our highest admiration, and we felt the greatest sympathy with Her Excellency in the anxious and trying time through which she has passed.

Address from Madras Corporation and opening of New Municipal Offices.

We boast a lineal descent from the oldest municipal institution founded in India on the model of similar institutions in the West. During the two and a quarter centuries which have elapsed since the first Charter was granted to the Mayor, Alderman and Burgesses of the town of Fort St George and city of Madrassapatam, the constitution of the body responsible for local self-government in this city and its powers and duties have undergone many alterations from time to time. The recommendations of the Royal Commission on Decentralisation, so far as they affected the administration of municipal affairs in this city, were carefully considered by the Corporation, and the results of our deliberations were submitted to the Government of Madras in the year 1910. We understand that some of the contemplated changes cannot be effected without the concurrence of Your Excellency's Government and of His Majesty's Secretary of State. The proposals under consideration may, if adopted, materially affect the part played by the inhabitants of Madras in the municipal government of this town, the efficiency of its administration and the comfort and welfare of our fellow-citizens. We feel assured that Your Excellency will sympathise with our anxiety that the contemplated advance in methods of local self-government in our city should not be delayed.

The chief problems with which the Corporation has to deal at present are the improvement of the water-supply and the provision of drainage. The insalubrity of Madras has long been a subject of anxious consideration on the part of the Government and the Corporation. The death-rate is high; in spite of the improvement of the port and the growth of trade, the increase of population during the decade between the last two censuses was remarkably small. We are endeavouring to improve the health of the city by opening out congested areas, by improving the sanitary conditions of the streets and lanes, and by other measures calculated to remove or reduce the causes of sickness and disease; a special staff has been employed this year for dealing with the prevalence of malaria in certain parts of the city. But the improvement of the water-supply and the provision of complete and adequate drainage throughout the city are regarded as essential before any real and marked improvement in the salubrity of the town can be effected. A scheme for the former, at a cost of over sixty lakhs of rupees, is now under execution, and a scheme to complete the drainage of the city—

*Address from Madras Corporation and opening of New
Municipal Offices.*

a portion of which has been already carried out—is now under consideration; the total capital cost of the drainage is estimated at nearly a crore and a quarter. We gratefully acknowledge the financial assistance which the Corporation has received from the Government in the past, but a careful examination of the finances and resources of the Corporation has shown that it will not be possible to complete these schemes, unless the Government give further large grants towards their cost. We are encouraged by the liberal grants made to the cities of Calcutta and Bombay to cherish the hope that a similar liberality will be extended by Your Excellency's Government to Madras.

We desire to express our gratitude to Your Excellency for so kindly consenting to open these Ripon buildings. It is a very great pleasure to us that Your Excellency's name, as well as those of your illustrious predecessors, the Marquis of Ripon and the Earl of Minto, should be associated with our new abode. From them we and our successors will draw inspiration and encouragement in our efforts for the betterment of this city.

In conclusion, we wish Your Excellency and Lady Hardinge a pleasant stay in our midst, and trust that Your Excellencies will carry away with you kindly and pleasing memories of Madras and its people.

To which His Excellency replied as follows:—]

Gentlemen,—The cordiality of the welcome I have received in Madras has been almost overwhelming, and I can only say that I am most grateful for your warm greeting, and tender to you my sincere thanks for your kind words regarding the deadly peril with which I was assailed last year, and through which a Merciful Providence was pleased to bring me safely back to health and strength.

You may well be proud of the ancient character of your constitution and the many improvements you have effected in your great city since the first Charter was granted to the Alderman and Burgesses of Fort St. George in 1687. Madras has long been known as the Garden City, and you are free from many of the evils of overcrowding so rampant in Bombay and Calcutta owing to

Address from Madras Corporation and opening of New Municipal Offices.

the extensive scale on which your city has been planned and laid out. Whether you owe this advantage to the foresight of your predecessors, or to the natural conveniences of your situation, I trust you fully appreciate its value, and will use the utmost care to preserve the open spaces with which you are so liberally provided. You have my full sympathy in your endeavours to make your city second to none of the Presidency Municipalities in India. The Government of India have accepted the views of the Government of Madras on the recommendations of the Royal Decentralisation Commission to which you refer, and these have been approved by the Secretary of State. Your Government will no doubt in due course take measures to give effect to the greater freedom and the larger powers of control which will thus be conferred on you, and which mark a substantial advance in the direction of the Commission's proposals.

I am sensible of the difficulties with which you have had to contend in the matter of your water-supply and drainage schemes. Since 1903 the drainage and water-supply works of your city have grown in magnitude, and you have now before you for completion schemes costing about a crore and three-quarters. Towards this heavy expenditure my Government last year sanctioned an Imperial grant of 25 lakhs; further they have during the last three years placed at the disposal of the Government of Madras non-recurring grants aggregating 39½ lakhs in addition to a recurring grant of 6 lakhs annually for urban sanitation, and I learn that the Madras Government have placed at your disposal considerable sums from provincial revenues in aid of the water-supply and drainage schemes of the city.

I understand that the provision of further funds will not become a pressing matter for two or three years, and I doubt not that, when the occasion arises, you will

Address from Cuttack District Board and Cuttack Municipality.

receive alike from your own Government and the Government of India most sympathetic consideration of your difficulties, always on the understanding that you are willing to do your own part, and make such sacrifices as are reasonable in order to secure the benefits which you desire for your city.

Meantime I have very great pleasure in informing you that my Government have admitted the principle of relieving the Corporation of the annual contribution of Rs. 50,000 which they now pay to Provincial revenues for services rendered through Government Agencies, and they will give effect to this decision as soon as a suitable opportunity offers.

You have done me the honour of asking me to open your new Corporation offices. They will constitute a worthy addition to the number of handsome public buildings that are scattered about your city, and I trust that within these walls your civic life may develop along useful lines, and that your deliberations and decisions may be guided to the furtherance of the amenities of your city and the comfort and happiness of your citizens. Gladly therefore do I accept the task that you have laid upon me, and will now proceed to open these buildings which you have so happily named after my great predecessor, Lord Ripon, whom I have always regarded with respect, and whom I had the good fortune to know well in the evening of his life.

**ADDRESS FROM CUTTACK DISTRICT BOARD AND
CUTTACK MUNICIPALITY.**

[His Excellency the Viceroy arrived at Cuttack on the morning of the 28th November and after the usual presentations 1913. Mr. Scroope, Chairman of the District Board, read the following address:—

May it please Your Excellency,—We, the members of the Cuttack District Board and the Cuttack Municipality, are deeply

Address from Cuttack District Board and Cuttack Municipality.

grateful for the opportunity given us of cordially welcoming Your Excellency as the first Viceroy who has visited this ancient and historic capital of Orissa, which will long be remembered with gratitude as it shows the great interest Your Excellency takes in the people of Orissa.

We respectfully beg leave to express our deep and sincere loyalty to the Throne and person of His Most Gracious Majesty the King-Emperor.

The people of all India were stirred with indignation and horror at the cowardly outrage of the 23rd December—all the more that it was perpetrated on the best friend of India—and read the daily telegrams with intense anxiety and received the announcement of Your Excellency's recovery with great pleasure and real satisfaction, thus showing the profound loyalty of the people to the Crown and genuine esteem and affection for Your Excellency.

The courage and fortitude displayed by Her Excellency Lady Hardinge at a most trying moment evoked expressions of the highest praise and won for her the sincere sympathy, respect and affection of all classes.

We heartily offer to Her Excellency Lady Hardinge a warm welcome to Cuttack, and tender Her Excellency our best thanks for her great interest in the children of India and her kindly solicitude and sympathy for the women of India to obtain for them the best medical aid.

That there has been no reversal of Government policy is entirely due to Your Excellency's highmindedness—we have unmistakable proofs of Your Excellency's determination to fulfil the wants and legitimate aspirations of the people of Orissa and of Your Excellency's concern for their welfare.

We cannot adequately express our gratitude to His Most Gracious Majesty the King-Emperor for the royal boons, and to Your Excellency for the enlarged Councils, the elective franchise, the large Imperial grant for education, and other beneficent reforms.

On our part we fully recognise the great importance of sanitation and the supply of pure water, both in the rural areas and in the city. The District Board is responsible for the local affairs of a large area and devotes the whole of its income to education, improved sanitation, maintenance of communications,

Address from Cuttack District Board and Cuttack Municipality.

excavation of wells for domestic use, and other works of public utility in the rural areas.

The grant of the entire public works cess has increased the financial resources of the Board, for which we are very grateful to Your Excellency. The Municipal Corporation is unremitting in its attention in regard to cleanliness of the city and digging of wells. The question of the general improvement of this important city in respect of sanitation, water supply, street lighting and roads is engaging our attention, but unfortunately the financial position of the Municipality is not such as to enable us to undertake any large project. We have asked the assistance of the Sanitary Engineer to draw up a scheme for water supply and hope with the help of Government to carry it out in due course. We are alive to a high sense of public duty and are putting forth our best efforts. It is our earnest desire that the District Board's work in the rural areas and the Municipal Administration in the city should be highly efficient and sanitation above reproach.

We would be wanting in our duty if we omitted to acknowledge our gratitude for the benefits we receive under British rule. There has been progress, contentment and increasing prosperity in all directions owing to the just and liberal treatment and the security afforded to all classes under British rule.

We again heartily thank Your Excellencies for your visit, and give the assurance that the people of Cuttack, who are loyal to the core, will always co-operate with the Government for the benefit and welfare of Orissa and the continued peace and good government of the country.

His Excellency replied as follows.—]

Gentlemen,—On behalf of Lady Hardinge and myself, please let me thank you very warmly for the exceedingly kind welcome you have given us.

The very name of Cuttack implies that it is a capital, and it is a very appropriate name, for your city has been the capital of Orissa ever since its foundation in the 10th century.

How it has escaped a visit from any of my predecessors is not within my province to explain, but it adds to the pleasure of my sojourn here to think that I am the first

Address from Cuttack District Board and Cuttack Municipality.

Viceroy who has had the privilege of meeting you in your own home and making personal acquaintance with your famous city.

I was extremely glad to listen to those remarks in your address which indicate the commendable interest you take in regard to sanitation and other important matters connected with the material interests of the areas under your control. I believe I am right in saying that the concession recently made regarding the public works cess has increased the resources of the Local Boards of Bihar and Orissa by the sum of 23 lakhs per annum, and this should add greatly to their powers for good and incidentally stimulate the interest of those gentlemen who give their time and attention to the management of the local affairs of the district. Nor do I think that my Government can be accused of confining their attention to rural areas, for within the past three years we have allotted 3 lakhs per annum for expenditure as urban sanitation in these provinces, besides non-recurring grants amounting to nearly 15 lakhs, and I am confident that your Local Government will not be slow to come to your aid in carrying out any well-considered scheme of water-supply and drainage, in which you yourselves show your interest by contributing as fully as your local resources permit.

Orissa was in ancient times a tract in which scholarship was held in high honour; and so long ago as the 7th century the famous Chinese traveller, Hiuen Tsiang, reported of your ancestors that they loved learning and applied themselves to it without intermission. But that was not the state of things when the English first became responsible for the administration in 1803; and be the cause what it may—partly no doubt the terrible oppression under which the province laboured in a previous period and partly a succession of natural calamities—

Address from Cuttack District Board and Cuttack Municipality.

the state of education was so backward at that time that there was scarcely a single Uriya in Government employ for the simple reason that it was impossible to find one of sufficient ability and education for a position of responsibility and trust.

For many years the efforts made to remedy this state of things met with nothing but opposition, and it was not till 1841 that a real beginning was made by the foundation of a higher class English school at Cuttack, which still survives as the principal seat of education in Orissa. Shortly afterwards, during the administration of my grandfather, two vernacular schools were started, and from that time on there was a steady improvement until a comparatively recent date when the standard of literacy as shown by the census return was higher in Orissa than in the other great natural divisions of Bengal.

During the last few years, however, I am sorry to say the standard has not been maintained, and I hope that you will make an earnest effort to regain your supremacy in this matter of primary education, and I may remind you that the Government of India have not been behind hand in doing their part, but have shown their substantial interest in the education of these provinces by recurring grants of 10 lakhs and a non-recurring grant of 26½ lakhs—all given within the past three years.

I cannot forget that you have in this district recently undergone a serious visitation from the floods which occurred last July and August, and I am afraid that Orissa is a country somewhat subject to the natural calamities of famine and flood.

You have records of terrible famines from the 14th to the 19th century, but since 1866 you have been spared any serious famine, and I trust that the irrigation works that have been constructed may continue to protect you in the future. But your recent experiences in the way

Address from Orissa Associations.

of floods must have taken the memories of many here back to the flood of 1896 and the calamitous storm waves of 1885 and 1890.

I am happy to think that on this occasion there was no loss of life in your district, and I trust that the prompt advances made by Government and the organisation of relief funds, to which the Raja of Kanika so generously contributed, together with the rapid repair of the irrigation channels, may have done all that is humanly possible to minimise your losses: while some consolation is to be found in the anticipation of bumper rabi crops as the result of seasonable rainfall and the unusual amount of silt deposits.

It only remains for me to tell you how deeply touched I have been by the wonderfully kind words you have used about Lady Hardinge and myself. They will do much to encourage us in carrying on the great task to which we have set our hands, and we repeat to you our warmest thanks for your cheering welcome; while you may rest assured that I will take an early opportunity of conveying your message of loyalty to His Most Gracious Majesty our King-Emperor.

ADDRESS FROM ORISSA ASSOCIATIONS.

26th Nov. [The above Associations presented an address to His
1913. Excellency the Viceroy at Cuttack, which was as follows:—

May it please Your Excellency,—We, the members of the Orissa Landholders' Association, the Orissa Association and the Central National Mahomedan Association, beg to offer to Your Excellency on behalf of the people of Orissa our heartfelt, respectful and loyal welcome to this ancient and historic town, the metropolis of Orissa and long the seat of Hindu, Mughal and Maratha Governments.

Ever since the Almighty Providence placed Orissa under the benign British rule more than a century ago, the people of

Address from Orissa Associations.

Orissa were not allowed the pleasure and the honour of welcoming the august representative of the Crown to this town, and this memorable and unique occasion of Your Excellency's visit will ever be cherished by the people of Orissa with feelings of pleasure and grateful devotion.

We take this opportunity of giving expression to our feelings of deep and heartfelt loyalty to the Throne and person of His Most Gracious Majesty the King, Emperor of India, and gratitude for the Royal boons.

We, the people of Orissa, while deeply deploring the dastardly outrage on Your Excellency's person and offering devout prayers to the Almighty for Your Excellency's and Lady Hardinge's providential deliverance, have reason to be proud that being "invested with the peculiar sanctity of religious traditions" Orissa has been able to keep out the "fungus growth of terrorism" and anarchy and to maintain untarnished her reputation for loyalty and devotion to the British Throne.

We, the people of Orissa, are deeply grateful to Your Excellency for preserving, in spite of the grievous outrage, an admirable equanimity of temper and for promising to "pursue without faltering" the noble policy of sympathy with the aspirations of the different classes, races and creeds that inhabit this mighty Empire of India whose future and whose people are matters for Your Excellency's anxious solicitude.

We, the people of Orissa, while thankful to Your Excellency for giving prominence, in creating the new Province, to Orissa, in the welfare of which we have reason to believe Your Excellency takes special interest, earnestly hope that the special needs and requirements of this Province may be ascertained and adequate measures may be taken for their fulfilment.

We cannot, however, overlook the fact that the people of this Province will necessarily be put to some inconvenience and trouble by the location of the University and the High Court at Patna. We may, therefore, be permitted to hope that Your Excellency will direct that proper steps may be taken for minimising them.

The people of Orissa rejoiced when the provisions relating to the maintenance of land records were deleted from the new Tenancy Act for Orissa, but we are informed that the matter is awaiting the final decision of Your Excellency's Government. As these provisions were highly unpopular and meant immense

Address from Orissa Associations.

trouble and harassment to all classes of the people, we are in anxious expectation that the operations now going on will be stopped under Your Excellency's order and any legislation on the subject will be considered unnecessary for Orissa.

We cannot adequately express our gratitude to Your Excellency for the enlarged Councils, the large Imperial grants for education and other liberal measures for the betterment of the Indian people.

We are thankful to Your Excellency for making time to pay a visit to the "Holy Land of India," and we hope that this auspicious visit will be associated with a new era of prosperity, growth and development in all the branches of the administration and will tend to raise the people of Orissa to a higher position among the other races in India under Your Excellency's fostering care and watchful guidance.

In conclusion we, the people of Orissa, offer our cordial and respectful greetings to Your Excellency and fervent prayer to the Almighty to bless Your Excellency and Lady Hardinge with a long and happy life.

His Excellency replied as follows:—]

Gentlemen,—You have reminded me that Orissa is known as the holy land of India, and I confess it took me by surprise when I was planning the lines of this tour to find that I should be the first Viceroy to visit the capital of a region that teems with such fascinating traditions. It has given me very great pleasure to think that, on such an occasion, the five important associations which you represent should have come forward to welcome me, and I tender to you my warmest thanks for the kind terms in which you, speaking on behalf of the people of Orissa, have couched your greeting. I have been touched by your references to the preservation vouchsafed to Lady Hardinge and myself a year ago through the intervention of a Merciful Providence; and while I congratulate Orissa on having so far preserved her escutcheon untarnished by any outrage of a similar nature, I pray that she may for ever be spared the shame and horror of such an incident.

Address from Orissa Associations.

You now form an integral and important part of the new province of Bihar and Orissa, and I trust that you will take an ever-increasing pride in that fact, for I am assured that the new province is proud of you, and that your Local Government, under the benevolent auspices of Sir Charles Bayley, will make it their particular business to watch over your interests, and identify themselves with those characteristics which are distinctive of your country.

It is seldom that any scheme of human design attains the ideal of perfection, and I readily recognise that, in your association with Bihar, some drawbacks and some inconveniences may be unavoidable; but while you will recognise that Patna is the obvious site for the first University to be created in this province, you may rest assured that your Government will take every care that the educational interests of Orissa do not suffer—indeed, I learn that they have given substantial testimony of their good intentions by according sanction to the rebuilding of the Ravenshaw College on a new site and on a much larger scale. With equal confidence I can promise you that the most careful consideration will be given to devising the best means of minimising the inconveniences which you foresee from the creation of a High Court at Patna.

The question of the maintenance of land records is a general problem, and not one that concerns Orissa only, and therefore some further time may elapse before a final decision is come to in the matter. Meanwhile the continuance of experimental work in Orissa should not be regarded as an attempt to prejudge the final decision, and the associations concerned may rest assured that no action will be taken without the most careful consideration of the manner in which it will affect the landlords and tenants, in whose interests the record-of-rights has been prepared.

Addresses from Bihar Landholders' Association, Patna District Board and Patna Municipality.

It only remains for me to tell you how deeply I appreciate the words in which you have given expression to your approval of the measures my Government have been able to take for the educational advancement of India, and for the promotion of the good of her people in other directions.

I thank you very heartily for your good wishes and cordial welcome to Lady Hardinge and myself, and I shall take an early opportunity of laying before His Most Gracious Majesty, our King-Emperor, your message of gratitude and loyal devotion.

ADDRESSES FROM BIHAR LANDHOLDERS' ASSOCIATION,
PATNA DISTRICT BOARD AND PATNA MUNICIPALITY.

29th Nov. 1913. [His Excellency the Viceroy arrived at Bankipur in the afternoon of the 29th November. The train was drawn up outside the station opposite a large *shamiana* in which the Durbar was held. There were present to meet Their Excellencies on the platform Sir Charles Bayley and Lady Bayley, who, after shaking hands with the Viceroy and Lady Hardinge, presented to Their Excellencies Sir Robert Scallon, Commanding the 8th Division, and General May, Commanding the Presidency Brigade. Their staffs and the various civil officers who were present on the platform were then presented, including Mr. Gait, Mr. W. Maude, Mr. Walsh, Mr. LeMesurier, Mr. White, Mr. Gardiner, Mr. Fischer, Mr. Oldham, Commissioner of the Patna Division, Mr. Nathan, Mr. McPherson, Mr. Ali Imam and others. His Excellency shook hands with every one and then proceeded to inspect the guard-of-honour of the 93rd Infantry and afterwards of the St. Michael's School Cadet Corps, which were drawn up on the platform. A procession was then formed and His Excellency walked to the large *pandal* and on to the *dais* at the far end. The *shamiana*, which was filled with English and Indian gentlemen, was beautifully decorated with blue and red testoons. The Durbar was opened with an address of welcome from the Bihar Landholders' Association read by the Maharaja of Gidhaur.

Addresses from Bihar Landholders' Association, Patna District Board and Patna Municipality.

The members of the deputation, after the reading of the address, handed to His Excellency a silver casket and were in turn presented to the Viceroy. An address from the members of the District Board was then read by the Hon'ble Rai Bahadur Krishna Sahai. When the members of the District Board had presented their address a concluding address was read by Babu Nareswar Sahai on behalf of the Commissioners of the Patna Municipality.

The addresses were as follows :—

BIHAR LANDHOLDERS' ASSOCIATION.

May it please Your Excellency,—We, the members of the Bihar Landholders' Association, beg leave to approach your Lordship and Her Excellency Lady Hardinge, on the auspicious occasion of your first visit to the ancient and modern Capital of Bihar, with this our humble but most cordial address of welcome, and we earnestly hope that Your Excellencies' stay here may be comfortable and pleasant and that you may carry away agreeable recollections of Patna, which has been a famous and an important city from the earliest dawn of Indian history and where, side by side with the modern city, the recent excavations have partially brought to light the monuments and ruins of ancient Pataliputra, which will appeal to Your Excellency's antiquarian taste and interest.

The Bihar Landholders' Association is the oldest non-official public body in the Province, and it has striven, ever since its foundation in 1878, to promote co-operation between the Government and the landed aristocracy in particular and all other classes in general. Your Excellency's predecessor, Lord Minto, was pleased on more than one occasion to testify his appreciation of the work of the Association as one "of long-standing, much distinction and great weight and which is entitled to speak for the aristocracy, the middle classes and the masses of the people of Bihar," as also one which "aims at not only forwarding the interests of landholders in Bihar but at developing all measures for the general improvement of the province." True to these high ideals, the Association has always regarded the interests of the landlord and tenant as identical and the prosperity of the one as co-extensive with that of the other. For the same reason

Addressee from Bihar Landholders' Association, Patna District Board and Patna Municipality.

the Association has always gladly co-operated with the leaders of the educated classes in the province in promoting such measures as seemed to it calculated to advance public interests.

It is to us a matter of extreme sorrow that the anarchical tendencies, which, unfortunately, made their first appearance in 1908, and have since manifested themselves at some places in certain parts of the country, cannot be said to have completely disappeared. It is to us a matter of even greater sorrow that one of these cowardly and nefarious outrages should have been aimed at the person of Your Excellency. In proportion to the pain caused to us has been our sense of gratification and gratitude to Providence at your complete recovery from the serious effects sustained by you, and we mean no reflection on any sister province in saying that perhaps nowhere the rejoicings on the occasion of Your Excellency's last Birthday anniversary were more enthusiastic than in Bihar. It is to us a matter of deepest satisfaction, and in fact we may venture to say that we are proud of it, that our own province Bihar, true to its traditions of loyalty to the King-Emperor, has been so far entirely free from any manifestation amongst our people of anarchical spirit. On the contrary, during all these years Bihar has given many proofs of her deep-seated loyalty to the Crown and all classes of our people have remained united in willing and loving allegiance to their King-Emperor.

The loyalty of Bihar is now well-nigh proverbial and we are grateful for the appreciation of it by Your Excellency's Government in the memorable Despatch of August 1911, in the course of which the Biharis are described as a "sturdy loyal people." This recognition of our genuine devotion to the Person and Throne of our Sovereign-Lord, the King-Emperor, followed by His Imperial Majesty's ever-memorable visit to this country, which brought in its train the royal announcements constituting Bihar and Orissa a separate provincial administration under a Lieutenant-Governor in Council, has even still more deepened the attachment of our people to the British Crown. In this connection we desire to assure Your Excellency that we cannot adequately express our sense of appreciation of the far-seeing statesmanship which inspired Your Lordship's Government in tendering the suggestions to His Majesty's Secretary of State for India which, as accepted and announced by His Imperial Majesty, have brought peace and contentment both to Bengal

Addresses from Bihar Landholders' Association, Patna District Board and Patna Municipality.

and Bihar and Orissa and also to the rest of the country by Delhi, the ancient and historic Capital of India, having once again been raised to the dignity and status of the metropolis of the great Indian Empire.

Having conferred upon our people the inestimable boon of a Lieutenant-Governorship with an Executive Council and a Legislative Council with non-official elected majority, your Lordship is now come to Patna to lay the foundation of our High Court which, and the Patna University when organised, will make this Province fully self-contained and equipped with all the apparatus of an advanced provincial administration in line with the progressive provinces of India. We hope it will be possible for Your Excellency to also open the High Court before you lay down the reins of office.

In conclusion, we desire once again to assure Your Excellency that Bihar will always hold in the highest regard and esteem the wise statesmanship with which Your Lordship has guided the affairs of the State during a critical period of Indian history, and will remember with gratitude Your Excellency's glorious work in the cause of the progress and well-being of the three hundred millions of His Majesty's Indian subjects. We further desire to be permitted to express our very high regard for Her Excellency Lady Hardinge, whose keen and deep concern for the intellectual and social advancement of our women have evoked feelings of deepest thankfulness amongst Indian ladies, by whom her name will be held in deepest respect, highest honour and greatest affection.

PATNA DISTRICT BOARD.

*May it please Your Excellency,—*We, the members of the District Board of Patna, most respectfully and cordially beg to welcome Your Excellency and Lady Hardinge to the sacred soil of the ancient Pataliputra on the august occasion of laying the foundation stone of the new Capital, the site of which lies wholly within the District Board area.

The old capital of Asoka will, under Your Excellency's auspices, be revived and rejuvenated into the new Patna of Your Excellency, which had the fortune of receiving the blessings of Their Imperial Majesties in the course of their journey to Calcutta.

Addresses from Bihar Landholders' Association, Patna District Board and Patna Municipality.

It is not possible for us to convey in suitable language our sense of gratitude to Your Excellency for the distinct recognition which Bihar and Orissa have received at your hands.

The constitution of the new Province and Your Excellency's solicitude to make it autonomous and self-contained have gained for Your Excellency the love and reverence of the people.

The transfer of the Public Works Cess to District Board is one of the many golden deeds of Your Excellency's régime.

An outrage of a dastardly character on the memorable occasion of the State Entry into Delhi cast a gloom over the entire Province, and it was on account of Your Excellency's providential escape and ultimate recovery that the children's day was celebrated in every town and village in this Province.

It is now a cause of the greatest gratification to the people that Your Excellency is in full enjoyment of health, and in a position to witness with your own eyes the foundation of the new Capital which is to rise and grow under the fostering care of Your Excellency.

The District Board of Patna is one of the largest in the new Province with an area of 2,045 square miles under its control and an income of Rs. 3,34,185 at its disposal.

We may be permitted to say that we have performed the duties imposed on us to the satisfaction of your benign Government, and improved the means of communication by the construction and extension of Light Railways.

The sanitation and education of the District have always received our best attention.

By the augmentation of our resources on the transfer to us of the Public Works Cess, we shall be able to create additional dispensaries, ameliorate existing institutions and make further sustained efforts to improve village sanitation and rural water-supply.

In conclusion, we again beg to accord Your Excellency and Lady Hardinge on the momentous occasion of your first visit to this district, a most hearty welcome, and pray to God for Your Excellency and Lady Hardinge's long life, health and happiness.

PATNA MUNICIPALITY.

May it please Your Excellency,—We, the Commissioners of the Patna Municipality, beg leave to accord to Your Excellency

Addresses from Bihar Landholders' Association, Patna District Board and Patna Municipality.

and Lady Hardinge a most loyal and cordial welcome on this, the occasion of Your Excellency's first visit to the ancient city of Pataliputra.

We gratefully appreciate the wise statesmanship which prompted Your Excellency's Government to recommend to His Majesty's Secretary of State for India the constitution of Bihar and Orissa into a separate Province under the administration of a Lieutenant-Governor in Council with Patna as its capital.

Your Excellency has earned our heartfelt thanks for thus reviving the traditional memories of this historic city, once the capital of the spacious Empire of Chandra Gupta and Asoka; the seat of the famous Municipal Government organized by the wise Chanakya; the scene of the beneficent activities of the Great Sage, Lord Buddha; the centre from which Sher Shah extended his rule over all northern India; the site, also, of a great mart of commerce founded by the Hon'ble East India Company.

The duty devolving upon us as Municipal Commissioners of striving to make our city worthy of its new dignity, is by no means an easy one. The installation of a satisfactory system of lighting, the establishment of a supply of pure water and the improvement of drainage and sanitation are amongst the most pressing needs of the city. The task before us would have been absolutely beyond our slender resources had not the Local Government already afforded us very generous assistance, assistance which we hope will be continued in the future.

We devoutly recognise the Divine Providence which preserved the lives of Your Excellency and Lady Hardinge in a time of deadly peril, and rejoice that the same Divine hand has not only restored Your Excellency to health, but has enabled us to have the privilege of welcoming you in our city to-day.

We trust that this visit, so great a source of pleasure to the citizens of Patna, may be in the future a happy memory to Your Excellencies.

His Excellency replied to the addresses as follows:—]

Gentlemen,—There is so much in common in the three addresses which you have just presented to me that I feel sure you will not think me wanting in courtesy if I do not answer them separately, and will accept the remarks which I have to make as my reply to them all.

Addresses from Bihar Landholders' Association, Patna District Board and Patna Municipality.

In the first place, I wish to thank you with the utmost sincerity for the cordial nature of the welcome you have given me. I am now drawing near the end of a prolonged and extensive tour, in the course of which I have visited some of the most interesting places in India; but if I may say so without being invidious, I feel that here in Patna my travels reach their climax; when I planned my tour I felt that, wherever I went and whatever I did, this city was one of those fixed points which must not be omitted, and it is therefore a matter of special gratification to me that you should have expressed yourselves in the same terms of genuine pleasure at receiving me, as I feel in reaching this my goal.

It may be asked why Patna should have such attractions, and to begin with I will read you the opening sentence of the second chapter of your District Gazetteer. It runs—"No district in Bengal has such an ancient and eventful history as Patna," and indeed I should not be far wrong if I said that in the whole of India the districts which can vie with it in historical interest could be counted on the fingers of one hand.

You have not then erred in surmising that the history and monuments of ancient Patna appeal intimately to my sympathies and interest. At a time when little official thought was being bestowed on the relics of the past, the first Lord Hardinge went to great pains to foster the study of Indian antiquities and succeeded in persuading the Court of Directors to have trustworthy records made of many famous monuments which were then fast crumbling to decay. The example which my grandfather set me I have been ambitious to imitate, and in following in his footsteps my aim has been, not only to continue the great work of rescuing and preserving the monumental glories of the country, but to take up also the task—a task which none has previously attempted—

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of systematically and thoroughly exploring some of the renowned cities of the past. With this intention we have lately set about the exploration of two great centres of ancient civilisation of Taxila in the Punjab, and of Pataliputra in Bihar, and from each we hope to reap a rich harvest of knowledge regarding the arts and the culture of antiquity. The foundation of your city carries us back to the lifetime of the Buddha; it was from your city that Chandragupta extended his dominion over India and established himself as its first paramount Sovereign; it was here that Megasthenes, the Ambassador of Seleukus Nikator, resided, and here that he wrote his invaluable memoirs on Indian life and customs; and it was from this capital that Asoka spread far and wide the religion of the Buddha, which afterwards penetrated to the remotest corners of Asia; while here in later days was born Govind Singh, the great Sikh Guru. You have every reason, therefore, to be proud of your heritage, and every reason to hope that here, if anywhere, will be lifted the veil of mystery and doubt which still envelops the early chapters of Indian history. The excavations for which Mr. Ratan Tata has so generously provided the means, and which the Archæological Department is carrying out on his behalf, have not yet had time to advance far, but they have yielded enough to show that the Royal Palace of the Mauryas was no phantasy of the Chinese pilgrim who described it in such glowing terms, and that much of it, and of many another civic building of those times, may yet be resurrected from their graves.

Close upon 11 years ago Lord Curzon came to visit you and spoke of you as a great city, the capital of an area which almost attains the dignity of a province, and I can use a similiar phrase, but in doing so I must leave out that important word "almost," for Patna is now the capital of a great and prosperous province, and that is

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another reason why I have looked forward to coming among you with so keen an interest; that I may take part in the foundation of some of those great institutions which give to your province the hall-mark of a separate entity and form part of the inauguration of that new career which His Most Gracious Majesty was pleased to open out to you by his announcement at the Delhi Durbar. Changes of such magnitude as his words effected cannot be made without hurting some interest somewhere, and it is my hope that those who felt the most distress at the time may gradually come to realise that they fulfilled an old canon of politics, and were calculated to produce the greatest good of the greatest number. But in Patna I need not dwell on that side of the picture, for His Majesty's decree was here received with unalloyed delight as giving realisation to the highest hopes and aspirations of the people of Bihar.

Gentlemen of the Bihar Landholders' Association,—
I welcome with very great pleasure this opportunity of meeting the heads of the landed aristocracy of the country. Your association holds a recognised position as their mouthpiece, and constitutes a most useful organisation for keeping Government in touch with the great agricultural interests of the territories entrusted to their administration. I felt special satisfaction in listening to the views which you have expressed regarding your duty in promoting the interests of tenants as well as of landlords and in furthering the common weal of the province as a whole, and in this matter I cannot but think that the efflux of time has enabled you to modify in some degree your attitude towards the policy of Government in agrarian matters, and to recognise that it is designed for the benefit of the landlords no less than of the tenants. So long as your association and its members maintain the high ideals in regard to the treatment of the tenantry

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indicated in your address, they cannot fail to receive from Government the consideration due to the representatives of such an important and influential class as the landlords of Bihar.

To all of you, Gentlemen, let me extend my congratulations that this province, which has always maintained its well-deserved reputation for sturdy loyalty to the Crown, has been free from those manifestations of an anarchical spirit, which unfortunately have from time to time shown themselves in other parts of India. This is neither the place nor the time for comment upon that subject, and I only refer to it in order that I may have the opportunity of thanking you for the kindly and sympathetic language in which you have referred to our merciful protection when my life was attempted last year; and it is my earnest prayer that Providence, which has permitted my complete restoration to health and strength, may so guide my steps that the remaining tenure of my great office may prove of some use to the peoples and provinces entrusted to my care.

The celebration of a Children's Day throughout India on the occasion of my birthday was the result of a suggestion which Lady Hardinge and I both thought to be admirable, and we have both tried to express our heartfelt thanks to the innumerable people who devoted so much time and trouble and money to making that celebration a success and a really happy day for children. You tell me that nowhere were those rejoicings more enthusiastic than here in Bihar, and I believe it, and for that spontaneous exhibition of your feelings once more let me express to you our great and lasting gratitude.

It has been a very great pleasure to us to meet you here, and we look forward with happy anticipation no less to the duties which are set before us during the next

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three days than to the pleasure of making personal acquaintance with your city, your institutions and your people; and when we leave we shall carry away a very grateful memory of the happy time we have spent among you and of the most kind and hearty welcome you have given us.

Gentlemen of the District Local Board,—I am glad to know that you have never been wanting in a due sense of your responsibilities, and I learn with pleasure your appreciation of the action of my Government in transferring to District Boards in this and other provinces the full proceeds of the local cess. By this grant the District Boards of the province will benefit to the extent of 23 lakhs per annum, while the grants from the Imperial Government to this and other provinces aggregate £530,000 sterling (or eighty lakhs of rupees) per annum. The position of District Boards throughout Bengal, Bihar and Northern India will thus be enormously improved, and with greater financial independence, a great impetus should be given to local self-government. These bodies will now be in a position to spend money more freely, in particular on dispensaries and hospitals, on measures to combat malaria and improve water-supply, on communications and other measures calculated to promote the health and comfort of the rural population, and I trust you will not omit the adoption, in co-operation with the Veterinary Department, of measures to prevent the serious mortality which often occurs among cattle and horses, on which so much of the prosperity of the agricultural classes depends.

I may mention one other matter which will be of interest to you personally and prove, I trust, the constant solicitude of my Government for any measures calculated to improve the sanitary condition of the masses. We have decided to hold a comprehensive enquiry into

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the possibility of improving sanitary conditions at centres where pilgrims congregate for worship. It is hoped that this enquiry will assist in co-ordinating the sanitary arrangements at the different centres, in providing for the greater comfort of the crowds of pilgrims, and in reducing mortality from diseases, such as cholera, of which these places of pilgrimage are often the starting points and foci. This enquiry, presided over by the Sanitary Commissioner with the Government of India, has recently been in progress in your province. Gaya and Puri in particular have been visited, and I trust that the measures proposed by the Committee will ensure a substantial improvement in the sanitary arrangements at these pilgrim centres, which are of such great importance to the whole of India and to this province in particular.

I cannot allow this occasion to pass without a reference to the heavy losses your district has sustained through the disastrous floods of last July. The damage to house property was very widespread and serious. Over 700 cattle were drowned and worse than all some 50 souls lost their lives. I offer to your people and more especially to those who have been thus so unhappily bereaved my deep, and sincere sympathy in their distress. Considerable sums have been advanced as tagai and I can only hope that a bumper rabi crop will bring back a smile to the face of a district whose eyes were so recently filled with tears.

Gentlemen of the Patna Municipality,—You have referred to the difficulties of your task, and I am well aware that the sanitation and conservancy of your city present problems with which nothing but unremitting attention and hard work will enable you to cope. I may remind you that grants of 10 lakhs non-recurring and of 3 lakhs recurring have recently been given by the Imperial Government to the Government of Bihar and

*Laying Foundation Stone of New Legislative Council
Chamber at Patna.*

Orissa for urban sanitary works. A grant of Rs. 33,000 per annum has also been given to the province in order to assist Municipal bodies in the reorganisation of their sanitary services. This includes, I understand, a subvention towards the appointment of a qualified Health Officer in the Patna Municipality. I have learnt with pleasure from a recent Resolution of your Government that these grants have removed to a large extent anxiety on the score of difficulty in financing water-supply and drainage schemes, and have rendered possible a real advance in the improvement of urban sanitation. I have no doubt that you will continue to receive generous assistance from your Local Government towards the large schemes of improvement which must be undertaken in order to render your city worthy of its new position and dignity. I trust that you on your part will co-operate zealously in this important work, so that Patna may become a city not unworthy of its past traditions and of its dignity as the capital of an important province, called into being, like Pataliputra of old, by the command of a Sovereign whose one desire is the welfare of his Indian subjects.

**LAYING FOUNDATION STONE OF NEW LEGISLATIVE
COUNCIL CHAMBER AT PATNA.**

1st Dec.
1913. [His Excellency the Viceroy laid the foundation stone of the new Council Chamber for the Province of Bihar and Orissa at Patna on the morning of the 1st December. In driving to the site the Viceroy's carriage was preceded by half a squadron of the 12th Cavalry, the 66th Battery, R.A., and another half squadron of cavalry, the rear of the procession being brought up by a squadron of the same regiment. Detachments from the 93rd Highlanders, 48th Pioneers and 93rd Infantry lined the route. On arrival at the site His Excellency received the Royal

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Chamber at Patna.*

salute from a guard-of-honour of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders and proceeded to a *pandal*.

His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor then addressed the Viceroy as follows:—

Your Excellency,—On behalf of the people and Local Government of this Province I have the honour to request Your Excellency to lay the foundation stone of our Legislative Council Chamber. In doing so I desire to express our great pleasure at Your Excellency's presence among us to-day, and I can only repeat what has already been said in the addresses presented to Your Excellency here and at Cuttack that the establishment by His Imperial Majesty's gracious command of Bihar, Chota Nagpur and Orissa as a separate Province has given the most unfeigned gratification to those whom the change affects. It is our fervent hope that the new Province may prove itself worthy of the high position which it now holds in His Majesty's Indian Empire. The regulations, under which the Legislative Council is elected and nominated, have been framed with much care in order to secure the fullest possible representation to the interests of all classes of a community which not only embraces an immense variety of races and creeds, but which affords examples of all grades of civilisation from great landholders, learned students, and professional men to tribes which are only now emerging from the most primitive conditions of life, and which comprises a very large agricultural and industrial population. To devise measures which shall promote the welfare of all these is no light task, and we earnestly pray that our work may always be done in a spirit of harmony and with a single eye to the public good.

His Excellency made the following reply:—]

Your Honour, Ladies and Gentlemen,—It is with very great pleasure that I accede to your request to lay the foundation stone of your Legislative Council Chamber, and I am happy to see gathered round me for this ceremony the faces of those upon whose shoulders the legislative responsibility of this Province rests.

The constitution of your Council was the subject of careful consideration by the Government of India and the

*Laying Foundation Stone of New Legislative Council
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Secretary of State, and follows the general model which was adopted when the enlargement of Imperial and Provincial Legislative Councils was undertaken in 1908. The object of the scheme which was then drawn up was to secure the selection of representatives of the diverse interests which are to be found in India, to which a share in the important task of legislation may appropriately be given, and, on the whole, that object has been successfully attained. In Bihar and Orissa the interests to which the right of election has been conceded are those of landholders, Municipalities and District Boards, Mahomedans and the important industries of mining and planting. In addition, at least six seats are filled by nomination by the Lieutenant-Governor, thus permitting of the selection of gentlemen who are qualified to speak for sections of the people in whose case electoral constituencies cannot be formed, or who by reason of their position in the province are likely to lend weight to the deliberations of the Council, either generally or in respect of any particular piece of legislation which may be before the Council at the moment. The two outstanding features of the Council are the concession of a majority of one to the seats filled by election, and the reservation of room for the expansion of the Council hereafter in accordance with the development of new interests, or the growth of existing interests which may be confidently expected to follow from the creation of the new province. Thus under the Act the permissible maximum of seats is 50 (exclusive of the Head of the Province and the Members of his Executive Council), but only 41 have been as yet filled. There is thus a margin of which use can be made in the light of the experience gained, and the retention of this reserve power to add to the Membership of the Council, according as the need of so doing may be demonstrated, is, I think you will agree, in every way preferable to experiments

Laying Foundation Stone of the High Court at Patna.

with constituencies upon new and untried bases, upon which it would be impossible to embark in one province without considering their effect upon India as a whole. In its first session your Council has already been engaged upon one important piece of legislation in the Orissa Tenancy Bills which was passed unanimously, and it is hoped that its subsequent deliberations will be characterised by the same moderation and spirit of co-operation by which alone the true interests of the province can be fully served.

I lay this stone in the knowledge that on this spot will rise a building worthy of the great uses to which it is destined to be put, and I trust that the successors of the present Legislative Councillors will bring to their deliberations within its portals such sense of dignity and responsibility, such ripeness of judgment, that from the conflict of jarring interests and clashing opinions, from which we can never expect and hardly hope to be free, may emerge decisions and measures devised to advance in the highest possible degree the enlightenment and prosperity of the people of this Province.

LAYING FOUNDATION STONE OF THE HIGH COURT
AT PATNA.

[In the afternoon of the 1st December His Excellency the 1st Dec. Viceroy laid the foundation stone of the New High Court for 1913. the Province of Bihar and Orissa at Patna.

On arrival at the site His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor addressed the Viceroy as follows:—

Your Excellency,—As Your Excellency is aware His Imperial Majesty's gracious command that Bihar and Orissa should be elevated to the rank of a separate province had hardly been announced before the desire of the people of Bihar that the province should be self-contained and should possess a High

Laying Foundation Stone of the High Court at Patna.

Court and an University of its own was loudly voiced in the local press. Public addresses and questions in Council have kept their desire prominently before the Local Government, and during the winter session the Legislative Council unanimously adopted a resolution recommending the establishment of a separate High Court. Your Excellency in Council took prompt measures to ascertain the views of the public and it is a source of immonso gratification to the province generally that the project has received the approval of His Majesty's Government. So important a change in the location of the highest judicial tribunal in the province cannot be made without in some degree affecting local interests, and in Orissa, which is at present in somewhat closer touch by railway with Calcutta than with Patna, apprehension has, perhaps not unnaturally, been felt lest the facilities now afforded to litigants should suffer. I have no doubt that when, as we hope may soon be the case, improved railway communication exists between the north and south of the Province, the fears which have been expressed on this account will prove to have had no real foundation. I now humbly request Your Excellency to take the first public step towards the materialisation of our wishes by laying the foundation stone of the Patna High Court.

His Excellency made the following reply:—]

Your Honour, Ladies and Gentlemen,—The ceremony that I have been asked to perform to-day is one to which I set my hand with no small feeling of solemnity, for never have I been called upon to execute a task which reminds me so forcibly of that double character I have the distinguished privilege of bearing as the head of the Executive Government of India and the personal representative of that Most Gracious Sovereign, from whom all judicial jurisdiction is derived, and in whose name all justice is administered.

The history which has led up to the laying of this foundation stone is within the knowledge of you all, and I think you will agree that, when once it had been determined that Bihar and Orissa should be promoted to the status of a separate province, it would be an adminis-

Laying Foundation Stone of the High Court at Patna.

trative anomaly that its people should still have to carry on their litigation at a place beyond its limits, where the obvious inconveniences of distance, cost and time are enhanced by the disabilities of a different atmosphere and a different vernacular. Sentiment and convenience alike pointed to the establishment of a separate High Court as the logical and necessary corollary of the creation of the new province, and it would have required the strongest array of practical difficulties to justify any hesitation in pursuing the policy which was announced by His Majesty at the Delhi Durbar to its legitimate conclusion.

The only difficulty of any magnitude that rises before us relates to the convenience of the people of Orissa; and though the ultimate remedy of the disadvantages under which they may labour will probably be found in the improvement of direct communication between Orissa and the capital of the Province, it is undoubtedly necessary to take into full consideration the temporary disadvantages under which they would otherwise suffer pending a solution on those lines.

The Government of India consulted the High Court of Calcutta about this among other matters—and here let me take the opportunity of saying what gratification it affords us all to see among us on this occasion the Chief Justice of Bengal and some of his honourable colleagues—and after mature consideration my Government have come to the conclusion that the most efficient device for meeting the case will be the establishment of a Circuit system which will not only bring the administration of justice to the very doors of the people, but will have the further advantage that Judges of the Court will be brought into the closest touch with a portion of their jurisdiction where the conditions are in many respects peculiar, and different from those of the rest of the Pro-

Address from Bihar Planters' Association.

vince, and I am pleased to be able to announce that in according his approval to the creation of a new High Court for the Province of Bihar and Orissa the Secretary of State has also agreed to the establishment of a Circuit system for the benefit of Orissa.

I now proceed to lay this stone in full confidence that upon it will rise a building which shall prove a boon to the people of this Province. I feel assured that, within its walls in future days, justice will be administered with courage and impartiality, to the terror of evil-doers and to the triumph of every cause which is right and true, so that the High Court of Bihar shall earn a name for sound sense and good law and be recognised by all as one more bulwark of the Indian Empire.

ADDRESS FROM BIHAR PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

1st Dec. [In the afternoon of the 1st December His Excellency, during
1913. his stay at Patna, attended a garden party given by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of Bihar and Orissa.

During this function the Bihar Planters' Association presented the following address to the Viceroy:—

May it please Your Excellency,—On behalf of the Bihar Planters, we, the members of the General Committee of the Bihar Planters' Association, with dutiful respect beg to tender to Your Excellency and Lady Hardinge a hearty and cordial welcome on the occasion of this your first visit to the capital of Bihar.

We are truly thankful that a merciful Providence miraculously preserved the lives of Your Excellencies on the 23rd of December last, and rejoice and congratulate you on your restoration to health and strength.

The European planters have been connected with Bihar for more than a century and quarter, and we, their successors, to-day are deeply and thoroughly interested in its welfare. We are proud of the land of our adoption and welcome and are grateful for the creation of the new Province of Bihar and

Address from Bihar Planters' Association.

Orissa and for the appointment of our own Lieutenant-Governor. We have taken in the past an active interest in local self government and the development of village government, and Your Excellency can rest assured that we are prepared, and will continue, to give whatever help and assistance we can for the advancement of the Province, not only by agriculture (the solid base on which all Empires and Kingdoms rest), but by bringing home to the raiyats, amongst whom we live, the blessings of elementary rural sanitation, medical relief, and the material advantages of co-operation by means of the Co-operative Societies.

The existence for more than half a century of the Bihar Light Horse as an efficient Volunteer regiment, a body which is at all times ready and at the disposal of the Government for the preservation of peace and order, is proof that we maintain the Yeoman's traditions of his duty to the State.

In conclusion we hope that Your Excellencies may enjoy your visit to Bankipore. We trust that, during the remainder of your stay in India, health and happiness may attend Your Excellency and family, and that prosperity, peace, contentment and good seasons may be vouchsafed to the people of India.

To which His Excellency made the following reply :—]

Gentlemen of the Bihar Planters' Association,—First let me thank you very warmly, on behalf of Lady Hardinge and myself, for your kindness in coming here to welcome us to your capital, and for the very friendly language in which you have couched your address.

You have played an important part in making Bihar, and especially Tirhut, the prosperous country it is. I am aware that some of you have had an up-hill task and are suffering from the competition of synthetic indigo. During the past 10 years considerable sums have been spent in aid of the indigo interest and scientific enquiries continue to be made to the same end. The results so far, however, have not been very hopeful, but it is some consolation to know that you are facing the situation, and turning your attention to other kind of crops, either in place of, or supplementary to, indigo; and I am told that

Address from Bihar Planters' Association.

the future prospects of sugar manufacture are hopeful, particularly in North Bihar. The Local Government, His Honour tells me, have decided to establish in the Saran District a combined sugarcane station and cattle-breeding farm, and I trust that this institution may prove of great benefit to the province as a whole.

It gave me the greatest possible pleasure to listen to that portion of your address which refers to the part you are taking in the life of the country with which you have cast your lot. By working as members of District and Local Boards and giving your time to the Panchayats in the Chaukidari Unions you are contributing to the progress and well-being of the people among whom you live, and identifying yourselves with their interests; while those among you who are helping in the furtherance of the system of co-operative credit are rendering a great service to the agricultural classes by showing them the way to shake themselves free from debt and to lift to a higher plane the conditions of their life.

I was much impressed with the efficient appearance of the escort which the Bihar Light Horse has done me the honour to furnish me here at Bankipore. Your Corps has a reputation which is deservedly known throughout India, and the services rendered by its members in past times in this country, and more recently by many of them in South Africa, constitute a record of which you have every reason to be proud. I am one of those who would like to think that a time will come when wars may cease throughout the world; but pending the arrival of that millennium, I shall always do what I can to encourage the volunteer movement, and I am glad to believe that the Bihar Light Horse will continue to be ready to go anywhere and do anything in the service of their King and country. I read with pleasure the accounts of your Jubilee celebrations last year, and it gave me especial gratification that His Majesty was pleased to accept my

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recommendations for the bestowal of honours upon Lieutenant-Colonel Filgate and Lieutenant-Colonel Hickley.

In conclusion, let me thank you once more for your cordial welcome, and tell you how pleased I am to have had this opportunity of making your acquaintance. I am very grateful for your kindly words regarding our merciful escape last year, and I value deeply your good wishes for the future. Lady Hardinge and I will carry away with us the happiest memories of the good-will and friendly feeling which have met us on every side in Bihar.

STATE BANQUET AT ALWAR.

[His Excellency the Viceroy concluded his autumn tour of 4th Dec. 1913 with a visit to Alwar before reaching Delhi. 1913.]

On the night of the 4th December His Highness the Maharaja entertained Their Excellencies and a large party to a Banquet at the City Palace.

In proposing the health of Their Excellencies His Highness said.—

Your Excellencies, Sirdars, Ladies and Gentlemen,—When the Governor-General of India, as the supreme head of the British Administration and as the honoured representative of His Most Gracious Majesty the King-Emperor, accepts the invitation of a Ruling Chief to visit his State, the occasion is observed as one of ceremonial and rejoicing; but that pleasure is doubled if, as in the present case, we are privileged to welcome him after having earned, if I may say so, his friendship from personal acquaintance. I feel thankful and fortunate to find myself situated in that happy position, for I can never forget the privilege of having enjoyed Your Excellencies' warm and kind hospitality on more than one occasion before now at Calcutta, Simla and Delhi. I have valued these opportunities highly and many others besides that have come into evidence on various occasions, particularly in that they have enabled one to realise at first hand that the destinies of India are securely placed in the hands of a Viceroy who is not only resolved to

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enhance the progress and prosperity of the country, but who by means of personal visits in time of need and firm courage and yet generous conciliation has shown himself prepared to solve difficult problems, aye! who by means of high-minded statesmanship together with sympathy has expressed himself to be a friend and well-wishing supporter of the Indian States, their privileges and their rights, who has given further evidence of his feelings in this direction and has demonstrated them in practical form only recently once again in Mysore and above all, who in the supreme hour of physical trouble a year ago, when all India stood breathless and aghast at the atrocious incident that occurred at Delhi, spoke amongst his first words when he was able to do so that his firm resolve for India's good remained unshaken

If, therefore, on such an occasion as this when I am voicing the sentiments of my Government, my people and myself, our feelings blossom out in expressions of gratitude and of earnest welcome, he would indeed be a soul-minded critic that would accuse us of exaggeration

Your Excellency, at the time of the unfortunate incident to which I have above referred, when the hearts of India were pouring out in sympathy for yourself and your noble consort, we felt that our misfortune was doubly great—for, while we had to suffer the humility of being compelled to imagine that the act had been perpetrated possibly by an Indian, we were also deprived of the pleasure of entertaining you here last year as we were hoping to do. Our welcome, however, on this occasion is none the less sincere than what it would have been before, and brief as is Your Excellencies' visit on this occasion, we trust that it you carry away, as we earnestly hope you may do, pleasant recollections of your visit on this occasion that you will give us the honour of welcoming you once again, when I hope to place our resources of sport available in our preserves at your disposal

Your Excellency has now been at the helm controlling the affairs of India for nearly three years, and we have followed with interest your various announcements and declarations made in different places. With the rapid progress of time in these days and the march of events in the East as well as in the West the destinies of India, and together with it the destinies of the Indian States, are shaping themselves into new channels. Education, which is the backbone of progress and enlightenment, is

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opening the minds of the people towards new ambitions and new requirements, and there is evidence forthcoming that the people generally are beginning to realise its benefits and to take advantages of the openings that in its natural course it affords.

Your Government have given tangible proof of the great interest they evince in this direction, and there are spontaneous movements on foot now in the country on behalf of the people with regard to education which have taken shape recently in the form of the Hindu and the Mahomedan University schemes which I understand will shortly be coming up for the consideration of your Government. I feel happy to think that the main principle kept in view in these proposals is that education shall be based on religious and moral principles, without which indeed the education, and particularly that of character, can never be complete; and on this occasion as one of the well-wishers of the Hindu University, in which I naturally take the keenest interest, I can but only appeal to Your Excellency to bestow upon it when the time comes the paternal consideration and benediction of yourself and your Government in order to enable it to stand up on its legs. I fully realise that it is premature at the present moment to refer in any detail to the affiliation of our schools to this University should it be deemed desirable later on to do so. I will therefore only say this much again, that we shall earnestly hope when the opportunity presents itself that this question will also receive sympathetic consideration at Your Excellency's hands. I mention this subject now as it is one that concerns us directly more than any other connected with the scheme.

With regard to the Indian States and their Rulers, I need say only this much as one of their number, that we sincerely value the tactful consideration and sympathy you have shown in their welfare and interest, and I for one particularly appreciate above all things the opportunities that have been afforded by Your Excellency of collecting together Chiefs in Conferences and taking them into your confidence for purposes of counsel and discussion. The success of the last Conference on Education that was held at Delhi when several of my brother Princes were invited by Your Excellency to discuss and consider the question of higher education for the aristocracy and the nobility of India, encouraged one to hope that it might be the happy augury of such Conferences in future with regard to such subjects as the Government of India may be pleased to put before

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them, and it was gratifying to see the encouraging remarks made on this subject by the Hon'ble the Under Secretary of State to His Majesty's Government in his Budget speech last year.

I fondly look forward to the day when it may be possible to establish some such permanent organization in the form of an Imperial Advisory Council, different to the one proposed some time ago and consisting of a certain number of reigning Princes, who would assemble together at prescribed periods to discuss subjects connected with the States or otherwise which the Viceroy and his Government may like to place before them. And when that day comes I truly believe that it will not only add to the strength and position of the Princes themselves, but it will be a living factor which, with the traditional loyalty and patriotism that they are likely to bring there, will prove a source of usefulness and support to the Government of India and the Viceroy who represents the Crown, towards which the feelings of the Chiefs have been and are those of loyalty and high esteem.

Your Excellency, I have taken the liberty to allude to this subject in passing on this occasion, and my apology for doing so lies in the fact that it is a subject very near my heart, and if ever such a proposal comes into being I at least feel sure of one thing, namely, that the reciprocal relations of the British Crown and the Indian Princes can lose nothing and may gain a good deal by their still closer association through these means.

I will not trespass on your time on this occasion with regard to questions of administration in my State, as perhaps this is not the fitting opportunity for me to do so; suffice it to say that we feel grateful to Providence that by His mercy, and thanks to the sympathy and encouragement received from the British Government and its Officers—amongst whom I feel happy to think I can count on some warm friends—that during the 10 years that I have been administering my State I may, I think, look back with satisfaction to the period during which my people have to the best of my knowledge been happy as a whole, and that we have tried to add our modest share towards enhancing the progress and prosperity of the State by means of the opportunities that came before us.

It was a pleasure to me this morning to show Your Excellency my Imperial Service Troops, which we feel proud to look to as

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one of the emblems of our traditional loyalty to the British throne—a loyalty which was pledged as far back as 1803 when a permanent friendship was established between the Hon'ble the East India Company and my ancestor Maharao Raja Sewai Bakhtawar Singh, when the friends and enemies of the Hon'ble Company were to be regarded as the friends and enemies of the Maharao Raja, and the friends and enemies of the Maharao Raja were to be the friends and enemies of the Hon'ble Company.

When the need arises for these two regiments to take their place in the active field I trust that they will not be found wanting to perform their duty against the common enemies of the Empire as some of their predecessors and they themselves have done before now. In the meantime—thanks to the peace which reigns over the country due to the wise guardianship of its Rulers—we can turn our attention towards more peaceful pursuits, and in this respect I need only add one more word before I conclude, that I like to put before myself such principles that may be the guiding factor of all one's acts in life. Amongst them I would place first the unbounded faith in the eternal mercy of God and loyalty to the King and the country; secondly, trust in the friendship and high-mindedness, fair dealing and justice of the Government of the country and its fountain head with whom our associations are so closely knit together; and last but not least, trust in one's self, come good or ill, to be staunch and unwavering in the determination to do justice to one's people, and above all to be a Rajput in reality as well as in name.

Your Excellency, allow me now on behalf of myself, my Government and my people to repeat to you both once more our cordial welcome—if I may say so, a true Rajput welcome. And, Ladies and Gentlemen, I will then ask you to join with me in drinking the health of our honoured guest His Excellency Lord Hardinge, Viceroy of India, and with it to whole-heartedly couple the name of his noble consort, whose sympathy towards our country will be borne in tender and grateful memories in the minds of its people, and to both of whom we wish that the future may bring every success and happiness in life.

His Excellency in responding spoke as follows:—]

Your Highness, Ladies and Gentlemen,—I must in the first place express my sincere thanks for the kind way in which you have drunk our healths, for the friendly

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and flattering terms in which Your Highness has proposed the toast, and for the warm welcome which you have given us at your beautiful and interesting capital. Your Highness has referred in graceful language to your recent visits to me at the seat of Government, and I need hardly say that it always gives me the warmest pleasure to receive as my guests members of the great family of the Ruling Chiefs of India, who share with me and my Government and the Governments of the various Provinces the responsibility of maintaining peace, order and justice throughout this great Peninsula and of guiding the destinies and fostering the happiness and prosperity of its peoples.

I value such visits not only on account of the opportunities they give us for the interchange of ideas and the mutual appreciation of one another's points of view, though that from a political aspect has tremendous advantages, but also because it has enabled me to increase so widely my circle of personal friends.

Your Highness's appreciative reference to my policy towards the Native States and their rulers has given me particular pleasure. Ever since I came to India, it has been my constant and earnest endeavour to acquaint myself with the traditions, feelings and aspirations of the Ruling Chiefs, to cultivate with them terms of personal friendship, and to bind closer the ties of loyalty and affection that unite the Princes of India to the British Crown. I am glad indeed to learn from Your Highness's lips that this endeavour has not been in vain, and I can assure Your Highness that should you personally be in any doubt or difficulty with reference to the administration of your State or any other matter, you may always count on me and my officers to do our utmost to find a satisfactory solution, since you and I and they are all working for a common end—the welfare of India and the happiness of its people.

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My visit to Your Highness is of necessity brief, but I have been here long enough to appreciate the picturesque scenery with which Your Highness's palace is surrounded and to understand the importance of the efforts you are making, not I trust without considerable hope of success, to clothe the neighbouring hills with verdure and so to mitigate the severity of a somewhat trying hot weather. I am sorry to think that you should have had this year a shortage of rainfall, and I deeply regret that the Durbar should have before them the possibility of scarcity, particularly in the matter of fodder. We can only hope that good winter rains may yet come to relieve the situation, and I am confident that Your Highness will in any case take every step that may be necessary to bring your people safely through any distress that there may be. To-day's rain will I trust materially improve the situation.

It is now just 10 years since Your Highness was invested by Lord Curzon with ruling powers. On the occasion of the Investiture His Lordship expressed the hope that future Viceroy's, as they visited the Alwar State in years to come, would find the good omens of that day fulfilled, and would envy him for having inaugurated a rule that had turned out to be creditable to Your Highness and beneficial to Your Highness's people. Your Highness, in replying, said that you trusted you would be able to discharge your duties to the satisfaction of the Supreme Government and to the prosperity of your subjects.

During the time that has elapsed since then you have shown beyond all question that you know how to rule. Nothing is done in the administration of the State without your cognisance and approval, yet you have thoroughly understood the importance of selecting the most capable officers you can get for all responsible positions. Consequently your departments are well managed

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and the finances of the State are carefully watched and conserved and, as Your Highness has just now mentioned, you have now a very substantial balance to the credit of your Treasury. The decennial report of Your Highness's administration, a copy of which Your Highness has kindly placed at my disposal, displays in a striking manner the efficiency of the Government, the progressiveness of the system and the thoroughness manifested in every branch of the administration. No stone is left unturned to develop the natural and industrial resources of the State, and I understand Your Highness is now busy with certain projects, which by extending the irrigated area of the State should add very considerably to its revenues and afford some protection in times of such shortage of rain as that with which the State has now been visited.

It is most satisfactory, too, to learn of the attention paid to the medical and educational needs of the people and of the success that has crowned the Durbar's efforts, for it is on the character of the medical and educational institutions of the State that their physical and moral well-being chiefly depends.

As regards education, Your Highness is to be congratulated on being represented at the Mayo College by more boys than any other State in Rajputana. You were there yourself and your father was the first pupil entered there, and I look upon the support you give it not only as a testimony to the affection and respect the Mayo College inspired in you, but also as an indication that Your Highness has realised the importance, as well for your nobles as for the prosperity and stability of the State, of building up for your assistance and support an educated and enlightened aristocracy.

When Lord Minto visited Alwar in 1909 Your Highness emphasized the importance of religious and moral

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education and His Excellency spoke of the special opportunities possessed by an Indian Ruler. It cannot be disputed that in the training of the young moral instruction is almost powerless without the sanction of religion. In this respect Your Highness is free from many of the difficulties which hamper us in British India, and Your Highness has made wise use of these favourable conditions by making religious and moral education compulsory in the State schools. I earnestly hope that the seeds now being sown will bear fruit in the shape of sturdy, loyal and God-fearing men.

This morning I had the pleasure of inspecting Your Highness's Military Forces and am able to bear personal testimony to their excellence and military bearing. Your infantry has the reputation of being the best drilled regiment in India and I can well believe it. I had the pleasure of seeing the Alwar Infantry at the Divisional Manœuvres near Delhi last year, and I know that they won commendation from the G. O. C. 7th Division for their good work, march, discipline and dash. The Imperial Service Lancers also presented an admirable appearance at the parade this morning. I may remind my audience that the Imperial Service Troops of Alwar have given proof in the past of their efficiency on active service, and I have no doubt should occasion arise will be ready and eager to do so again, thus carrying on the tradition initiated 110 years ago when Rao Raja Bakhtawar Singh first sent troops to co-operate with Lord Lake during the Maratha War.

I will not longer detain you, but before I sit down I ask you, Ladies and Gentlemen, to drink with me to the continued prosperity of the Alwar State and to the long life, health and happiness of our generous and enlightened host, His Highness the Maharaja Sir Jey Singh Bahadur.

SIKH DELEGATES' REPRESENTATION ON GRIEVANCES OF SIKHS IN CANADA.

20th Dec. [A deputation from the Sikhs waited on His Excellency the
1913. Viceroy on the morning of the 20th Decombor and presented the
following address:—

Your Excellency,—We, the Sikhs and Hindostanese in British Columbia, Canada, beg to state that in November 1911 we sent our delegation to the Dominion Government at Ottawa to lay our grievances, as summed up in our representations filed herewith, before the Minister of the Interior.

On December 15th, 1911, our delegation was formally told by Honourable R. Rogers that the first part of our representations re the admission of our wives and children shall be immediately attended to, and the other parts also settled in a just and straightforward manner.

Over a year has elapsed since then, and in spite of several reminders sent by us to the Canadian Government, no definite settlement has been made, and the Canadian Immigration Law stands in the same ambiguous and objectionable form as it did at the time our delegation received their formal promise from the Minister of the Interior.

Parliamentary telegrams, sent by authorised Press Agents from Ottawa were published in all the Indian and English papers of December 1911, to the effect that the Dominion Government had decided to allow our wives and children to enter Canada.

These telegrams aroused a chorus of hearty thanks to His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught and the Canadian Government for doing this act of elementary justice towards us.

But unfortunately for both the parties concerned, all these hopes were falsified, as no definite action has been taken by the Canadian Government to remove the direct and the indirect barriers raised against us by the Canadian Immigration Law.

Therefore now we are obliged to depute Bhai Balwant Singh, Priest, Sikh Temple, Vancouver, B.C., Bhai Narin Singh, Macebearer, Sikh Temple, Vancouver, B.C., and Bhai Nand Singh Sihra (with full powers to add to their number on arrival in India), as our delegates to lay our grievances before you in this Historic City of Delhi where our (90 per cent. of the Hindostanese in British Columbia being Sikhs) ninth Spiritual King Guru Togh Bahadur met his heroic fate to maintain the principles of

*Sikh Delegates' Representation on Grievances of Sikhs in
Canada.*

fair play and justice, and where our forefathers shed their life blood to save the British Empire in India at the time of its sorest need—the year of 1857.

We have every hope that Your Excellency would listen to our brief plea, and the fuller representations of our delegates, and do all that lies in your power to influence the Canadian and the Home Governments to have the cause of our grievances removed, and keep the corner stone of the British Empire—even-handed, fair play and justice to all without any distinction of caste, creed, race or colour—intact.

His Excellency replied as follows:—]

Gentlemen,—I am glad to have had this opportunity of hearing from your own lips what you have to say about the grievances of your fellow-countrymen in Canada; and I am sorry that I should have had, owing to the great pressure of business, to postpone the opportunity so long.

I need hardly tell you that I and my Government are keenly interested in the well-being of Indians in every part of the globe, and that we regard it as our business to give them all the support we can whenever they have complaints to make of a reasonable character about the treatment to which they are subjected.

The memorial that you have now presented to me deals with the restriction placed upon the admission of wives and children of Indians already resident in Canada, and in regard to this I may perhaps tell you that the Government of India made representations on the subject, and that as a result the Canadian Government agreed to waive the order requiring possession of 200 dollars in the case of the wives and minor children of Indian residents, who are in a position to receive and care for their family, but as the restriction requiring a continuous journey on a through ticket still remained, we were unable to regard the situation as satisfactory, and we have been for the last few months in corre-

Address of Welcome from the Calcutta Corporation.

spondence with the Secretary of State with a view to the removal of this disability. The memorial you have handed me, when it is in due course remitted to the Home authorities, should strengthen the force of our case. You must not, however, forget that there is a very strong feeling among classes wielding considerable political influence in Canada against any relaxation of the restrictions, and a recent decision by the Chief Court ordering the release of some Indians under orders for deportation has produced forcible protests and a demand for more stringent legislation.

I regret therefore that it is not possible for me to foresee the ultimate result of our representations, and I can only assure you of the active support and sympathy of my Government, and promise you that we shall do all in our power to secure the removal of this particular disability.

ADDRESS OF WELCOME FROM THE CALCUTTA CORPORATION.

23rd Dec. [His Excellency the Viceroy and Lady Hardinge arrived at
1913. Calcutta on the morning of the 23rd December and landed at Prinsep's Ghat, having left the special train at Howrah. As this was His Excellency's first visit to Calcutta after the transfer of the Capital, much interest attached to it.

In the afternoon His Excellency received an address from the Calcutta Corporation which was presented in the Throne Room at Government House and was as follows:—

May it please Your Excellency,—We, the Chairman and Commissioners of the Corporation, on behalf of the citizens of Calcutta, beg leave to approach Your Excellency and Lady Hardinge with a most loyal, hearty and cordial welcome on your visit to Calcutta. We cannot but regret that we are now receiving Your Excellencies as visitors and not as residents in our city. Nevertheless we desire to take the opportunity to convey to Your

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Exoellency an assurance of our warm attachment to yourself and Lady Hardinge and our sincere admiration for your liberal and sympathetic administration and firm dotation to carry out the beneficent policy of Government. We venture to express the hope that we may look forward in the future to prolonged annual visits from Your Excellency and future Vicoroys to Calcutta.

Twelve months ago to-day a dastardly attempt was made upon Your Excellency's life at Delhi, and it is supremely gratifying to us to find that the united prayers of the millions of His Majesty's loyal subjects in India for the restoration of Your Excellency's health after that cowardly outrage have not been in vain, and that you have now recovered from the injuries which at one time seriously alarmed Your Excellency's many friends and admirers in this city. The courage and fortitude displayed by Lady Hardinge on that occasion has won our warm and respectful admiration.

Turning now to our own affairs, we may be permitted to refer to the impending amendment of the Calcutta Municipal Act. The matter is now under the consideration of Government and we may expect that before long the Bill will be introduced in the Legislative Council. We must express our grateful acknowledgments to Government for their intention to amend the municipal constitution of Calcutta in such a manner as to afford ample scope for the expansion of local self-government and for the large participation of the people in the civic administration of this great city.

Among matters engaging our serious and anxious attention at present is one which threatens to assume a very grave aspect in the near future. We refer to the apprehended silting up of the Bidyadhari river which serves as the outfall of our drainage system. If the apprehensions of the Engineers of Government prove correct, Calcutta will be faced in the near future with a most difficult problem. It will be our earnest endeavour to meet this emergency and to provide for the effective charge of our drainage, but we may have to ask for the assistance and co-operation of the Government of Bengal, and we trust that this aid will be freely given.

Since we last had the privilege of approaching Your Excellency with an address, the Calcutta Improvement Trust has come into being and the Trustees are devoting themselves to the task of improving and beautifying the city. In spite of this, however, the Corporation have continued their policy of effecting such

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improvements as their resources will permit, after meeting their statutory contribution to the finances of the Trust.

We desire to take this opportunity of thanking the Government for granting the Corporation the privilege of sending two representatives to the Bengal Legislative Council. We greatly appreciate and value this increased franchise.

In conclusion, we beg to thank Your Excellencies for affording us an opportunity of offering you our respectful welcome to your old Capital, and we fervently pray for your continued health and happiness.

His Excellency replied as follows:—]

Gentlemen,—I am afraid that in some quarters I am regarded in the light of a deserter from Calcutta, and I therefore value the more highly the compliment you have paid me in presenting me with this address of welcome. I am most grateful and indeed deeply touched by your appreciative references to the spirit in which the administration of India is carried out by my Government, and should like to thank you very warmly for the friendly language in which your address is couched. My wife and I have very pleasant recollections of two cold winters spent within these walls, and I certainly think that future Viceroys should make a point of maintaining a close connection with your city; while, speaking for myself, I hope that this may not be the last occasion when I may pay you a visit. It is exactly a year ago to-day that I was temporarily disabled by the attempt upon my life, and I can only thank God for sparing it and hope that it may not have been spared in vain. As the months roll by the quantity of work to be done seems ever to increase and the burden of responsibility to grow greater, and my prayer is not so much that I may be able to work as that in the renewed health and strength that have been vouchsafed to me the work that I should do may be rightly guided in useful and fruitful channels.

Up to the present time the anxieties to which you refer about the outfall of your drainage system have not

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been brought to my notice officially, and that is only natural, as the question is, I understand, still in the preliminary stages of investigation; but I have seen references to the subject in the daily press and can easily understand and share your anxiety. It is difficult to imagine anything much more serious than the dislocation of the drainage system of a huge city like this, and while I am glad to recognise your readiness to the emergency, I feel sure that in so grave a matter you will receive full sympathy, support and co-operation from your Local Government should your apprehensions prove well founded.

As regards your reference to the proposed amendment of the municipal constitution of Calcutta which is now under the consideration of Government, I may assure you that it is the earnest desire of the Government of India to further the progress of local self-government in India wherever possible. I sincerely hope that such increased powers as it may be possible to confer will not be given in vain, but will lead to increased efficiency in the discharge of the many and responsible duties of the Corporation. With reference to the Calcutta Improvement Trust, as you are aware, the Government of India have placed a sum of Rs. 50 lakhs at the disposal of the Government of Bengal for payment to the Trust, and are making in addition an annual contribution for 60 years of Rs. 1½ lakhs towards the cost of improvement schemes. The Government of India are greatly interested in the operations of the Trust which have recently commenced, and will be glad to see this great city further improved in health and beauty. I understand that proper arrangements will be made *pari passu* with the progress of the scheme for re-housing the population that must necessarily be displaced.

There is one other purely municipal matter to which you have not referred in your address about which I

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should like to say a few words, and it is in connection with the Calcutta Municipal (Loans) Bill. I understand that there has been an impression that the currency of the Corporation's loans will in practice be invariably restricted to a period of 30 years. Orders, however, are under issue which will remove this impression. The Government of India have agreed to the insertion of a provision in the Bill, as in the case of the Bombay City Municipal Act, fixing a maximum term of 60 years for the currency of a loan, and it is hardly necessary for me to say that their intention is to treat the Corporation of Calcutta in respect of their loans in precisely the same way as the other presidency corporations.

Gentlemen, you represent all sections of the community, and as I may not have another opportunity I am going to trespass upon your patience by saying one or two things which do not bear a purely municipal aspect. I want to take this opportunity of congratulating Calcutta upon the prominent part which she has played in this year's finance as shown at the outset by her taking up the entire rupee loan and later in the handling of the banking crisis. The wise and public-spirited attitude which the Bank of Bengal has adopted in this anxious period has, I am pleased to see, been generally recognised and appreciated, and I may congratulate Calcutta itself on the steadiness and absence of panic which has been shown throughout; it is a welcome testimony to the underlying soundness of your commercial finance. The institution which it is the custom to describe as a State bank has not yet been brought into being, and I do not venture to hazard an opinion as to whether it ever will, but that does not mean that Government maintain an attitude of entire aloofness on occasions like the present. We have in fact been working in close touch with the Bank of Bengal throughout and as you know have placed the Bank in possession, free of interest, of an unusually large

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supply of funds in order to enable it to assist, within certain limits, such banks as require and can reasonably claim its aid. We are also prepared, if necessity arises, temporarily to provide the Bank with further funds on the loan terms recently approved by the Secretary of State and publicly announced; and these terms, I may remark, will leave the Bank free to place at the disposal of trade the whole of any such special addition to its resources during the period for which any such loan is current. I have heard it said that since the Government of India left Calcutta they have ceased to care for its interests, and I venture to think that the attitude we have adopted during this banking crisis is evidence to the contrary.

I should like to call the railway administration as another witness for the defence. For the present year Calcutta railways have been provided with as much capital as they can conveniently spend. For the next year (1914-15) in the programme which has been submitted to the Secretary of State we have provided for expenditure on open line works and rolling stock for the railways centering in Calcutta the very large sum of Rs. 7½ crores out of a total of Rs. 18 crores. This, Gentlemen, is more than one-third of the whole of the funds available in the programme for 1914-15 for all the railways in India and is proportionately a larger sum than has ever been allotted to the railways centering in Calcutta. The justification for this large sum being spent next year and further sums in ensuing years rests mainly on the confidence that I and the Government of India have in the commercial ability and enterprise of the leading firms in Calcutta. Recognising the difficulties that have had to be contended with in regard to railway transport during the last year, we feel sure that the fullest advantage will be taken of the improved railway

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facilities which are being provided at heavy cost to develop trade and that the increased railway receipts consequent thereon will fully justify the expenditure. But this is not all. To the figures I have just given must be added a further sum of some Rs. 60 lakhs that we are providing for the Lower Ganges Bridge, a work which will be completed in 1915 and which has been in active progress for the last three years and which alone will cost Government when complete Rs. 4½ crores. In urging that Government should find the funds to construct this bridge the commercial community of Calcutta took a very leading part, and as it is now certain that the opening of this bridge will lead to a very large development of trade, I would like to congratulate the commercial community of Calcutta on their foresight in so strongly urging that it should be built.

But I have still some more to say about what is being done to develop Calcutta trade. The Burdwan-Howrah Chord has been sanctioned and Rs. 40 lakhs have been allotted for expenditure on it next year, in addition to the funds provided for this year, work having already been begun on it. Then surveys have been practically completed for an extension on the Bengal-Nagpur Railway from Bishenpur to Howrah and designs drawn out for a new bridge across the Hooghly near Bally, the site for which has been finally settled with the consent of your Port Commissioners, and I do not anticipate that there will be much delay before the building of the bridge is put in hand. In the matter of railway construction by private enterprise Calcutta's claims to consideration have been willingly acknowledged. One of your leading firms has recently jointly floated the Sara-Serajgunj Railway under a concession given by the Government of India, and another concession for a line from Burdwan to Cutwa has also been granted to another firm, associated with whom I am glad to say has been an Indian gentle-

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man of marked ability and sound knowledge of railway work.

I claim, Gentlemen, that the facts I have just stated show without doubt that the change of capital has not affected the interests of Calcutta in any way in regard to the assistance Government is able to give willingly towards the development of the trade of the port. While Government is making such large efforts to develop your trade I am glad to know that steps are being taken to enable this future trade to be dealt with at your docks and other terminal arrangements. You are about to tackle this very difficult question, and I think I can fairly claim that the Government of India have gone out of their way to be helpful in lending you the services of Sir Henry Burt, for to tell you the truth, he is a difficult man to spare, and it was only after considerable hesitation and in special consideration for your difficulties and problems that I agreed to lend you his services at our temporary expense. I feel sure that by the help of the outside advice which you have now secured, coupled with the sound commonsense and business aptitude of the commercial men of Calcutta, a satisfactory solution will be found to remove existing difficulties, and you can rely on the Government of India assisting, as far as it reasonably can, in helping towards this solution. As regards other projects or schemes of development connected with Calcutta that may in the future come before me and the Government of India, I can assure the members of the Corporation that they will be considered in no narrow spirit, but broadly upon their merits and in co-ordination with the requirements of other parts of India.

Before concluding let me say how deeply touched Lady Hardinge and I were by your friendly thought of making a gift to her on this occasion and how grateful we both are for your acceptance of her wishes in connection

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with it and for your generous donation to the Dufferin Zenana Hospital. There are no institutions in which she takes a deeper interest than those of which the object is to help and alleviate the sufferings of her own sex. I thank you again very warmly for your kindly welcome and good wishes towards Lady Hardinge and myself.

ADDRESS FROM ALL INDIA TEMPERANCE LEAGUE

26th Dec
1913

[A deputation from the above League headed by the Hon'ble Dr. Deva Prasad Sarvadhikary and the Bishop of Calcutta presented an address to the Viceroy on the morning of the 26th December in the Throne Room at Government House Calcutta, and which was as follows:—

DR SARVADHIKARY

Your Excellency,—Calcutta is proud and rejoices once again to have an opportunity of extending loyal and cordial welcome to its much endeared Viceroy, and the hearty enthusiasm of that welcome is re-centred and augmented by the complete restoration of Your Excellency's health, shattered under circumstances painful to recall and humilitating to contemplate. Fervent and united prayers of this great city went up to the footstool of the All Preserver's throne on that fateful afternoon for saving Your Excellency's valuable life and India's fair fame and reputation, and the city is supremely grateful that its supplication seconding Lady Hardinge's sublime devotion found the grace of response.

The calls on Your Excellency's time during your short sojourn here are numerous and manifold, and we have therefore taken the liberty of suggesting that by way of economising time our necessarily long and complex representation should be taken as read. The representation was decided on at the ninth All India Temperance Conference at Bankipore at which as President of the Calcutta Temperance Federation, I had the honour of presiding. This is my only title to present to Your Excellency a deputation consisting of so many personages of distinction and prominence. Our representation closely follows the lines of the representation made to the Secretary of State the summer before last. The deputation is the outcome of His Lordship's suggestion in reply, that Your Excellency's Government should be

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approached for fuller consideration of the details affecting the situation. Owing to the state of Your Excellency's health we refrained from pressing on Your Excellency's attention the resolution of the Bankipore Conference regarding the deputation till a favourable opportunity arose, and this was afforded when Your Excellency was more than graciously pleased to grant me an interview at Simla last summer, and agreed to receive the deputation here.

Of those from India who had the honour of joining the deputation to Lord Crew are present here the Rev. Herbert Anderson (than whom none has worked harder and more whole-heartedly and effectively in the cause) and myself. The Hon'ble Mr. Gokhale, properly our chief spokesman on the occasion, is unfortunately away on account of his bad health, and other prominent temperance workers are engaged in the tenth All-India Temperance Conference which meets immediately at Karachi. Many more would have gladly joined the deputation but for the need of limiting the number.

Our representation has been prepared in consultation with leading Temperance Organisations all over India and the Anglo-Indian Temperance Association of England, which always accords us hearty and substantial help. It has been a genuine pleasure to us all to recognise and appreciate the growing good relations between Temperance workers and Excise authorities and the steady though slow progress of reform. There is indeed a section of our workers whose advanced views do not find place in our representation, views in which many of us share but which we refrain from urging because they may be considered unpractical and possibly extreme. Temperance workers all have to recognise the need of temperance and moderation in all directions, and they are fully encouraged in view of the promising reciprocity on the part of responsible authorities. They also recognise that not the Government alone but the people in their homes and their Society and the Educational authorities have considerable undischarged duties about which popular feeling and public opinion remain to be educated. Towards this end they determine to strive.

In the meantime it is a great encouragement and gratification to us that some of our long outstanding and pressing suggestions have been forestalled, and with Your Excellency's aid and co-operation our popular and sympathetic Governor, Lord Carmichael, has been able to give us the first instalment of relief

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in the shape of a Licensing Board with Executive Powers on which Temperance views are to have partial representation. We welcome this as a series of real reforms that in the near future are to grow from more to more. When Your Excellency's Government and the various provincial governments with will, zeal and discretion, with proper weapons in hand, set about work the public will be saved and the publican spared. Lord Crewe's imagery about the "tangled forest" will prove a fabled myth and be turned into a pleasant glade, with determined pioneer achievements, in a land where drink and drugs are alike condemned by Moslems, Hindoos, Jains, Buddhists and Brahmos, where no questions of vested interest arise that trouble other lands and people and where the real needs of the minority can be adequately guarded by a resourceful Government without unduly sacrificing the larger and claimant public interests. For such a Dawn we expectantly wait, and it is Your Excellency's proud and glorious privilege to take the initiative in the opening-out of a brighter and more hopeful epoch in the annals of British Indian Rule, as Your Excellency has already done in the domains of Education and of Indian interests abroad and many others unnecessary now to recapitulate.

THE BISHOP OF CALCUTTA :

Your Excellency,—Our deputation appreciates very highly Your Excellency's kindness in granting us this interview, and we are sincerely grateful for the favourable opportunity thus afforded us of laying before Your Excellency considerations which we believe to be of importance on the question of the growth of the drink and drug habit throughout India. We know quite well what careful attention this grave subject has received, and is continually receiving, from Your Excellency's Government, and we desire in the strongest way to affirm that we come here as fellow-workers with them in the great cause of the promotion of temperance in this land, and not in any spirit whatever of opposition or captious criticism. This position is the more easy for us to take up because Your Excellency has shown by abundant and unmistakable proofs that you are genuinely desirous of associating the people and unofficial communities of the country, in all feasible and suitable ways, with your Government in matters of administration, and in the consideration and practical promotion of the many schemes of a beneficial and progressive

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nature which are at the present time engrossing so much of Your Excellency's time and thought.

It is, then, as *gonnino* colloagues—so far as we may venture to claim that position—and fellow-workers in this cause that we are here.

At the same time we do believe that there are points of view, possibly of extreme importance and most practical bearing, which it is easier for those to grasp and value aright whose attention is, for the time, restricted to this one subject, and whose position towards it is not complicated by the entering in of a variety of other considerations, such as inevitably present themselves to the mind of an official of Government who has also to deal with questions of Revenue, and the many other interests which, on behalf of Government, he necessarily represents; and it is in this belief and to advance views thus reached that we have sought the privilege of this interview.

The substance of our contentions is contained in the printed statement which has already been submitted to Your Excellency, and we do not in the least desire now to go over that ground again. We merely desire to press home anew the extreme gravity of this question at the present most critical juncture in the history of this great land.

It is a truism that India is passing through a time of transition such as has not been known within her borders for many centuries. In manifold directions old things are passing away, a new life is coming to the birth. Such times are always and necessarily critical times, bringing with them their own dangers and temptations as well as their own splendid opportunities and possibilities.

Of what vital importance, then, must it be to secure that amidst what is passing away, the lover of India should not have to include that character for sobriety and for abstinence from all injurious use of intoxicating liquors, which has, on the whole, been so ancient and honourable a feature of Indian life. The loss of this would indeed—as, we feel well assured, Your Excellency would recognise every whit as fully as we can—be a terrible price to pay for progress and improvement in any other directions, be they never so great.

The real wealth of a nation consists in the strong, clean, temperate and healthy lives of its people—especially of its younger generations. It is in the most earnest desire to assist, to the very utmost of our power, Your Excellency's Government in

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safeguarding this great asset and minimising in every possible way the risks to which it is, at such a time as the present, necessarily exposed in very high degree, that we have ventured to seek this interview with Your Excellency.

We tender our most sincere thanks for the kindly and gracious manner in which our request has been received, and it is our most earnest prayer that God may, in His mercy and goodness, guide, protect and assist Your Excellency now and at all times in dealing with this important and difficult question.

His Excellency made the following reply :—]

I thank you, Dr. Sarvadhikary, and you, My Lord Bishop, very cordially for the very kind and friendly references to myself and my Administration contained in your speeches introducing the deputation, and I can assure you, Gentlemen, that it gives me no little pleasure to receive your deputation to-day. I need hardly tell you that the object which you have at heart is one which has my cordial sympathy and approval, and I should like at once to assure you that the Government of India, the Local Governments and Administrations, and their officials, are unanimous with you in desiring to promote the cause of temperance in this country by all means within their powers.

Your memorial, Gentlemen, appears to me to cover very much the same ground as a similar representation recently made to the Secretary of State by a deputation that waited upon him in July of last year. The Government of India have taken the occasion to review the results of our excise policy since the changes introduced after consideration of the Report of the Excise Committee which was appointed in 1905. Local Governments and Administrations have been consulted upon the main questions raised in the memorial presented to the Secretary of State, and the Government of India will shortly be addressing the Secretary of State on the whole subject. Your deputation, therefore, has waited on me at a specially opportune moment.

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You call attention, in the first place, to the increase in revenue from excise duties and the increase in consumption of liquor and drugs which have taken place since 1905. I have carefully studied the portion of your memorial in which you deal with this aspect of the case, and I am sure you will not attribute to me any desire to minimise the possible dangers of the present situation if I suggest that you appear to attach an excessive importance to increase in revenue as an indication of increase in consumption. There are many factors which make fluctuations in revenue a misleading measure of fluctuations in consumption. I desire to invite your close attention to certain statistical tables which have been specially drawn up in this connection, copies of which are available for the use of the members of the deputation. An examination of these statistics shows that during the last seven years,—that is, in the period that has elapsed since the revision of our excise arrangements which followed the Report of the Excise Committee of 1905-06,—while the revenue per proof gallon or seer from country spirits, from opium, and from hemp drugs, has increased by 28, 26 and 46 per cent., respectively, the consumption of these articles per hundred of the population has in the case of country spirits increased by only 3 per cent., surely a comparatively insignificant figure. The consumption has remained stationary in the case of opium; and in the case of hemp drugs it has decreased by more than 8 per cent. Again, if we take the case of foreign liquors, while the total receipts from customs duty have increased by over 29 per cent., the total imports have fallen off by about 6 per cent. It is true that during this period the *recorded* consumption of country spirits shows an increase of nearly 41 per cent.; but I desire to draw attention to the fact that this increase is largely misleading, since the recorded consumption increases with every

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increase in the substitution of our central distillery system for the outstill system, under which no record of consumption can be maintained. During the last seven years this process of substitution has occurred in very large areas. You are doubtless aware also that the suppression of illicit manufacture due to greater vigilance and more efficient control necessarily leads to an increase in the total recorded consumption. I am inclined to think, therefore, that the general position we have attained in connection with the consumption of intoxicants in India is scarcely so alarming as your memorial would appear to suggest. At the same time the matter undoubtedly merits the close attention of Government, with a view to measures being taken to prevent any undue expansion of consumption. Our chief means for the attainment of this end has been a steady and judicious raising of the duties on all classes of intoxicants, accompanied by a reduction in the facilities for obtaining them. The duties have been substantially increased during the last seven years; and to this fact must for the most part be attributed the great rise in the excise revenue which you deplore; in fact, the rise of revenue is the effect of increased duties rather than the result of increased consumption. Large reductions have at the same time been made in the number of shops licensed to sell intoxicants, and, as the statistical tables will show you, the nett number of shops abolished during the last seven years reaches the striking total of 11,500. These reductions have naturally caused an increase in the sales of shops, a fact to which you draw attention, though I am unable to discover that the increase is in any case as large as you suggest. But you will remember that an important result of these reductions is necessarily that, besides offering less inducement to intemperance, there is less competition between the shops, less

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tendency to force down prices in order to undersell rivals, fuller scope for the operation of high duties and vend fees as items in the cost of production—all of which lead to a general rise in the retail price and a corresponding discouragement of consumption. The Local Governments are in fact constantly using their powers to increase the duties on intoxicants and to reduce the facilities for their sale. It may indeed fairly be claimed that the settled policy of the Government of India, of securing maximum taxation with a minimum of consumption, has been steadily kept in view and is being steadily kept in view. At the same time we cannot afford to forget that in India there is a practical limit to the amount by which the duties can be increased owing to the difficulty of preventing illicit manufacture and smuggling. It would be easy to do lip-service to the cause of temperance by recklessly raising the duties and thus diminishing the recorded consumption; but it would be impossible in many areas to prevent the almost certain consequence of a more than corresponding increase in illicit consumption, which would be a far more serious evil in its effect on the health and morals of the people.

The main requests affecting our excise administration which are contained in your statement are that the licensing functions of the administration should be separated from the revenue functions; that the powers and functions entrusted to local advisory committees should be reconsidered; and that the fixed fee system or some similar system of licensing should be substituted for the auction system of vend of licenses. I entirely appreciate the spirit in which these suggestions have been put forward, and you need have no apprehension that I should misunderstand your action in stating your views to me with complete frankness. One of my motives in receiving your deputation was that you should be enabled to do so.

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At the same time I cannot accept the assumption underlying the first of your proposals, namely, that the desire to secure larger revenue is a paramount motive in the mind of revenue officers when dealing with questions of excise. Your contention is that such a result must follow as an inevitable consequence of the combination of the dual functions in one officer. I think you overlook the high ideals which have always animated the officers of Government in their care for the true interests of the people entrusted to their charge. The Collector is responsible as Magistrate for the peace and sobriety of his district: this is his primary duty; the revenue interests of Government, important as they are, must come and do come after it. I can find no evidence that officers aim at securing a large excise revenue through an increased consumption of intoxicants, or that they receive any encouragement to do so from their superiors. Such a procedure would be contrary to the whole spirit of British administration in India. I cannot, therefore, regard this objection to the present system as in itself a ground for the adoption of your second proposal that wider executive powers should be entrusted to advisory committees. Do not, however, think that I am not in sympathy with your desire to see an eventual development of local control. You will agree with me, however, that the introduction of such an important change in our administration is one which requires very careful examination and should not be embarked upon by Government unless they are very sure that the time is ripe. I doubt myself whether the moment has yet arrived, at least so far as the greater part of India is concerned, for entrusting wider executive control to local committees. At the same time I think it very desirable that Local Governments and Administrations should make free use of these committees and that they should be as repre-

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sentative as possible. Substantial progress has been made in achieving this ideal. In this connection I attach great importance to the interesting experiment which you have been kind enough to attribute to my influence, but which has in fact been initiated by the Government of Bengal, of establishing licensing boards in Calcutta and its suburbs and in Howrah and Bally. The results of this experiment will be very carefully watched, and, should it prove successful, I think the way will be cleared for a similar experiment in other large towns also. Meanwhile it seems to me that it would be unwise to attempt to hasten a movement which has developed and is developing naturally on healthy lines of its own. Such a course might lead to results very different to that which you desire. Cases, for instance, have occurred in which the intervention of the executive authorities has been necessary to prevent an actual increase in the number of liquor shops being effected by an advisory committee. Nor do I think it possible to lay down any general instructions concerning the constitution of these committees: that is a matter which must clearly be left to the discretion of the Local Governments concerned.

I have read with interest your remarks concerning the auction system of vend which for many years past has formed one of the most controversial questions connected with the excise policy of the Government of India. The main objection usually urged against the auction system is that it may result in the license fee being in effect too high, and consequently forming an inducement to the licensee to press sales and to indulge in malpractices in order to increase consumption and recoup himself. The alternative fixed fee system, on the other hand, while involving the acceptance of a lower license fee, tends to create vested interests. One of these two difficulties is inherent in practically any system of licensing, and it is

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a matter of extreme difficulty to decide—indeed it can only be decided by experiment—which is the best type of system for a country such as India. You will remember that in 1907 Lord Morley, who had a lifelong knowledge of and interest in temperance questions, in replying in England to a deputation similar to your own, emphasised this difficulty,—the immense difficulty of deciding upon what is the best system of licensing the sale of liquor. Both the auction and the fixed fee systems have theoretical disadvantages and it is not easy to decide by which the cause of temperance may best be served. You remark that the system now in force in Bombay does not compel the license-holder to push his trade and sell the maximum amount of liquor or drug possible during the period of his holding the license. In cases, no doubt, where the licensee has paid too much for his license in relation to its true value, he may be tempted to press consumption unduly; but I am afraid that human nature is never averse to gain and it would be rash to assume that because a man has paid a small fee for his license he will not wish to see his customers consume and pay for the largest possible quantity of liquor. As I said just now, this question appears to me one which can only be finally decided by experiment. Hitherto it cannot be said that experience has been decisive. According to information contained in the Excise Administration Report of the Bengal Presidency for 1912-13, in certain districts a reduction in the license fees on country spirits during the year was followed by an increase in the consumption of such spirits. We know also that the trial of the fixed fee system in certain selected districts of the Punjab in substitution for the auction system a few years ago was accompanied by an increased consumption. An experiment, however, is now in progress on a larger scale from which we may expect more conclusive results. The

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Government of India on the representation of the Government of Bombay sanctioned in 1911 the introduction of the fixed fee system in that Presidency as an experimental measure. It is reported that the working of the system has so far been attended with a fair measure of success, but it is too early yet to draw a general and decisive conclusion. I cannot at the moment say more than that the Government of India do not regard this question as closed. They are watching the Bombay experiment with close interest and should its results prove satisfactory, they will consider the advisability of suggesting to other Local Governments that similar experiments might be initiated in suitable areas within their provinces.

With regard to your complaint that drink and drug shops are occasionally located on undesirable sites, I would remind you that instructions have already been issued to the local authorities to adhere as closely as possible to the rules which have been laid down on the subject, and I see no reason to doubt that this will lead to the gradual abandonment of undesirable sites in the future.

I have already referred to the large reductions which have been made in the number of shops for the sale of intoxicants of all kinds. Statement III of the statements which have been supplied to you shows that there has been a slight increase in the number of foreign liquor shops. A large portion of this increase, however, is due chiefly to improvements in our system, whereby licenses are now insisted on in the case of bars, canteens, etc., for which they were not previously required. In other cases the reductions have been considerable.

You have very rightly drawn attention to the importance of restricting the hours of sale to reasonable hours. There is no doubt that early opening and late closing

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tend to increased consumption. But much has already been done by the Local Governments to check this tendency by reducing the hours, and such further measures as may be practicable, bearing in mind the reasonable needs of the people, will be taken to secure still further reductions.

In regard to your suggestion that the influence of the Education Department should be utilised to secure temperance teaching in schools, I understand that in the majority of the larger provinces School Readers already contain such lessons. But, as you observe, the necessity of temperance teaching in schools and colleges does not really exist in India so far as discouraging intemperance amongst the students is concerned. The Government of India addressed Local Governments on this subject in 1907, and declared that it would be sufficient if the subject of intemperance were dealt with in a few sensible lessons in the sanctioned Readers. The Local Governments have kept this suggestion steadily in mind.

I am in sympathy with your suggestion to provide counter-attractions to intemperance, and I am ready to bring your suggestions on this head to the notice of Local Governments for such action as may be feasible. It seems to me, however, that some of the detailed recommendations which you have made on this point—for instance, the dissemination of temperance leaflets, and the like—relate to matters in which action might more appropriately be taken by the organisations which you represent than by Government; and I commend this proposal to your earnest consideration. I also agree with you in attaching importance to the maintenance of as accurate and complete statistics as possible of the consumption of liquors and drugs, so as to secure a true measure of the position from time to time in this country, and it is a question to which the Excise Department give constant

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attention. Statistics of the consumption of intoxicating articles can, however, be maintained by the Department only in so far as data are readily available. Those we publish are reasonably accurate so far as the consumption of the chief intoxicants is concerned. It is true that no statistics of the consumption of outstill country spirit or of toddy and other country fermented liquors are available; but the outstill system is now universally regarded as obsolete, and is being gradually and consistently ousted by the distillery system. In the case of toddy and other country fermented liquors it is clearly impossible to obtain any reliable statistics of consumption without an undue amount of interference with the consumers and vendors. In any case, these liquors are generally of low strength and much less deleterious than spirit. You are correct in asserting that the distribution of imported liquors between different provinces has not hitherto been accurately known; but statistics of their sale in each province are now furnished in the provincial Excise Reports in accordance with the instructions issued by the Government of India in 1911. To minimise illicit consumption, the extent of which cannot in the nature of things be accurately ascertained, the excise establishments of all provinces have also lately been, or are being, strengthened and revised.

Your anxiety that attempts to make drink harder or more expensive to obtain may drive consumers into more deleterious drug habits, is one which for long has been the concern of my Government. Under present conditions, however, it cannot be said that either opium or hemp drugs or potable liquors (country or foreign) compete successfully with each other; and you will find that this is borne out in the statistical tables which I have handed to you. As to cocaine, I and my Government have for some time past regarded the serious increase in

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the use of that dangerous drug with the gravest anxiety, and we, together with the Local Administrations, have devoted much attention to the problem of its prevention. Within the last eighteen months legislation has been passed or initiated in several provinces greatly increasing the penalties for unlawful dealings in it with a view to render punishments more deterrent. Very special efforts have been made by our preventive officers to detect cocaine offences, and in spite of the fact that the drug is capable of being very easily smuggled, these efforts have, I am glad to say, met with a considerable measure of success. But the most efficient method of checking the illicit trade in this drug, which unfortunately is now a feature of several great ports of India, lies in the imposition of control over its manufacture and sale in the countries of production. You are no doubt aware of the part which the Government of India have taken in the recent Opium Conferences at the Hague with the object of designing international control over such manufacture and sale. It is hoped in this way to make it difficult to bring out to India large quantities of the drug, which offers, owing to the very high price at which it sells, an irresistible temptation to smuggling and illicit possession. The Government of India, I may add, have no revenue interest whatever in the traffic in cocaine, which, as you are aware, can only be obtained from abroad.

I have put freely before you, Gentlemen, recognising the important and representative nature of this deputation, what Government are doing, and are prepared to do, to control the consumption of drink and drugs in India. But you must remember that there are natural forces outside Government's control which are making for indulgence in intoxicants in this country. The population, agricultural and industrial alike, is becoming increasingly prosperous. We observe, too, in India the

Address from British Indian Association, Bengal Presidency Moslem League, Imperial League, Bengal National Chamber of Commerce, Marwari Association, Indian Association and Bengal Landholders' Association.

beginnings of a tendency, of which the development is giving much anxiety in Western countries, for the people to flow from the rural districts into the towns where drinking habits are far more rife. An even more important influence, perhaps, is the gradual relaxation of social and religious restrictions on drinking. Were Government, therefore, to adopt extreme measures of restriction, or to endeavour to force the pace unduly upon the path which they have marked out for themselves, there would be the gravest danger of creating a stimulus to illicit manufacture and consumption which might lead to a general breakdown of control. My Government and Local Administrations will not relax their steady policy of watchfulness and of restriction based on practical expedients for checking excessive consumption. In our endeavours, Gentlemen, I am glad to hear from you that we may be assured of your sympathetic co-operation. Government can do much, and our efforts will not be spared; but I cannot better conclude what I have to say to you to-day than by borrowing from your memorial a sentence with which I am in the fullest agreement—"Real reform must come from among the people themselves."

ADDRESS FROM BRITISH INDIAN ASSOCIATION, BENGAL PRESIDENCY MOSLEM LEAGUE, IMPERIAL LEAGUE, BENGAL NATIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, MARWARI ASSOCIATION, INDIAN ASSOCIATION AND BENGAL LANDHOLDERS' ASSOCIATION.

[On the morning of the 26th December His Excellency the 26th Dec. Viceroy received at Government House, Calcutta, a deputation 1913.]

Address from British Indian Association, Bengal Presidency Moslem League, Imperial League, Bengal National Chamber of Commerce, Marwari Association, Indian Association and Bengal Landholders' Association.

representing the above Associations, which presented the following address read by the Maharaja of Burdwan.

May it please Your Excellency,—We, on behalf of the different Associations representing the interests of the various Indian Communities in Calcutta and in this Presidency, beg to accord Your Excellency and Her Excellency Lady Hardinge a cordial and respectful welcome on your visit to Calcutta.

Whilst we look back with horror and shame at the dastardly outrage on Your Excellency's person about this time last year at Delhi, we remember with feelings of the deepest gratitude how from that sick-bed which all India was watching with expectant interest and anxiety Your Excellency delivered that noble message declaring Your Excellency's unchangeable affection for the people of India and unalterable determination to follow that policy of conciliation and co-operation which has won for Your Excellency the love, the esteem and the affectionate gratitude of the people.

Your Excellency's broad-mindedness and sympathy towards the legitimate aspirations of our people have already enthroned Your Lordship in their hearts, and the righteous indignation which Your Excellency expressed at the treatment of Indians in South Africa has evoked the unstinted gratitude and admiration of millions of our countrymen. There is no doubt that Your Excellency's noble words of sympathy and encouragement have helped materially to allay the sense of excitement and uneasiness which had filled our hearts.

In conclusion, we trust that Your Excellency will continue to feel an abiding interest in the welfare of our great city—the cradle of the British Power in India. We desire to assure Your Excellency of the whole-hearted and devoted loyalty of our people to the British Throne, and of our firm belief that the destinies of this great country are indissolubly bound up with those of that mighty Empire to which we have the good fortune to belong and the full measure of whose citizenship we aspire to. It is our earnest hope and prayer that the stay of Your Excellency and Her Excellency Lady Hardinge in Calcutta may be pleasant and that Your Excellencies may carry back kindly reminiscences of our city and our people.

Address from British Indian Association, Bengal Presidency Moslem League, Imperial League, Bengal National Chamber of Commerce, Marwari Association, Indian Association and Bengal Landholders' Association.

His Excellency replied as follows:—]

Your address bears witness that you have come here to-day, not to urge upon my attention any grievance, not to press upon me any request, and not to ask from me any promise, but just to welcome Lady Hardinge and me to Calcutta, to say you are pleased to see us, to congratulate me upon my providential escape last year and my restoration to health, and to thank me for the attitude I have adopted towards the aspirations and interests of the great country over whose destinies the King-Emperor has set me to rule. Nor, again, have you come as representing any particular section of the Indian community of Bengal and Calcutta, but I think I may claim with justice that your various associations represent all sections. Such a welcome as this is one which any man might well be proud to receive, and I can only thank you from the bottom of my heart for thus uniting to give us so friendly a reception, and for the kind and appreciative language in which you have couched your address. I have still nearly two years before me before my course in India is run, and in that period, if the future may be judged by the present or the past, I have many toilsome days before me, many difficulties to overcome, and troublesome problems to solve. As you know, there is at present one upon which we all feel deeply, but for which I am still hopeful that an equitable solution may be found, and I feel that I ought to take this opportunity of saying what great importance I attach to the recognition by the leaders of the Indians in South Africa of the Commission appointed by the Government of the Union. The fact that a public and judicial enquiry will be held by a Commission, of whom the President is a Judge of Appeal and universally esteemed and respected, to investigate the

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allegations that have been made, to enquire into their causes, and to make recommendations, presents an opportunity that the Indians have not had before to submit to the verdict of the world the justice of their grievances. I cannot urge too strongly upon the leaders the urgency of accepting the Commission and of setting to work at once, to prepare their case for submission to it. The Government of India feel such deep interest in the result of this Commission that we have appointed a distinguished official, Sir Benjamin Robertson, whom I think many of you know, to be present before the Commission as the Representative of the Government of India. This is one of those anxious problems to which I have just referred, but all these difficulties and problems mean a just and right adjudication between conflicting interests, in the decision of which, in the very nature of things, satisfaction cannot be given to all. But as in the past so in the future it will be my constant endeavour to bring to my task a spirit of fairness and just dealing with a true sense of duty and responsibility; and if, when I come to lay down the reins, I can feel that your sentiments continue to be such as those you have expressed to-day, I shall indeed be a happy man.

I thank you very warmly for your cordial words of welcome to Lady Hardinge and myself; I readily assure you that I shall always take the deepest interest in your Presidency and in this city, where I have spent so many happy days, and I shall not fail to communicate to His Most Gracious Majesty the King-Emperor your expressions of loyalty and devotion to his Throne.

SPECIAL CONVOCAION OF THE CALCUTTA
UNIVERSITY.

26th Dec. [On Friday afternoon the 26th of December a special Con-
1913. vocation of the Calcutta University was held in the Throne

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Room at Government House, Calcutta, for the purpose of presenting an address of welcome to the Viceroy and for the conferment of Honorary Degrees.

The address, which was read by the Vice-Chancellor, was as follows:—

May it please Your Excellency,—In availing ourselves of the privilege, graciously accorded to us, of approaching Your Excellency with an address of welcome, we—the Members of the Senate of the University of Calcutta—feel urged before everything to give expression to the deep heart-felt satisfaction which we experience in once again seeing before us our beloved Viceroy restored to full health and strength. We are unwilling to refer to the disastrous things that have happened since Your Excellency last presided at a Convocation of ours: let not the dark shadow of what now is past and overcome intrude upon the bright present! But we think it right and proper to give on our part some brief expression to feelings which connect themselves with those sad occurrences. We feel devoutly grateful to a benign Providence which has preserved to us a life of inestimable value and has mercifully saved India from what might have become an indelible stain on her fame. And our hearts are filled with the deepest admiration of that wonderful strength of mind which during a long period of severe suffering never failed Your Excellency, of that high magnanimity which prompted you, in the midst of great anguish of body and mind, to declare that nothing would ever shake your firm resolve to devote all your powers to the furtherance of India's welfare. These are imperishable memories indeed, and associated with them there will for ever dwell in India's mind the image of your noble consort supporting you in darkest moments with such heroic fortitude, such incomparable self-control. The spectacle of a great calamity being borne and conquered in so grand a spirit not only endears the sufferers to the people's hearts; it also tends powerfully to strengthen their confidence and pride in their rulers, and thus serves to draw closer the bonds of a seasoned loyalty.

But we owe a more special welcome to Your Excellency as the Chancellor of this University. We remember with sincere gratitude the help which we so far have received from Your Excellency, and we cherish the confident hope that such help will not fail us in the future. Our University continues to be in the throes of a deep and far-reaching transformation—a transformation moving

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on lines explicitly indicated by the Indian Universities Act, and moreover unmistakably and forcibly suggested by the actual needs of Calcutta and Bengal in the sphere of higher post-graduate teaching. We need not state details with which Your Excellency is fully acquainted; all the progress made so far would indeed have been impossible had we not enjoyed the good fortune of working under a Chancellor so keenly aware of the demands of the time and animated by so sincere a sympathy with the intellectual aspirations of the people. A beginning has been made under the most favourable auspices, but the main part of the work remains to be accomplished and to that end the constant co-operation of Government will be absolutely indispensable. We here have in view, not only financial assistance, though this is no doubt the most urgent and patent want of the moment, but also that co-operation which depends on the free going-out of sympathy and the full-hearted approval of aims and ideals. Co-operation of this kind is needed not only for the direct furtherance of our undertaking, but also to impress on the community at large the importance of the work in which we are engaged and the confidence that it will be steadily continued and carried on to ever higher issues. The aims of the present University movement are strictly academical: we desire to promote among our countrymen higher intellectual culture and the love and pursuit of learning and research. But at the same time we are fully aware that any advance in knowledge cannot fail to have wide-reaching effects extending far beyond the sphere of the pure intellect, and we trust that the new University for which we are working will, under wise and cautious guidance, prove powerfully instrumental towards the general moral, social and economic progress of the people of Bengal, perhaps the whole of India. It is the consciousness of the mighty interests involved, of our high aims and correspondingly high responsibilities, which urges, nay compels us, to claim the assistance—assistance in the fullest sense of the term—of our Chancellor and the Government of India. The foundations have been laid under Your Excellency's auspices, and it is our fervent wish that before the time will come when you may have to bid us farewell, the new structure may have risen to a stately height, standing before the world as a recognised centre of high intellectual activity.

His Excellency made the following reply:—]

It is a great pleasure to me to meet once more the Senate of the Calcutta University.

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I am indeed grateful to you for the very kind terms in which you have referred to Lady Hardinge and myself in your address of welcome, and I appreciate warmly the kindly thought which prompted you to present me with it. I shall always value very highly this exceptional compliment coming, as it does, from a seat of learning of which I am proud to be the Chancellor. It was a source of profound regret to me that the state of my health precluded me from being present at Convocation last March, but I am very pleased indeed that it has been possible to hold a Convocation during my brief stay in this city. And I think you will agree with me that this is a somewhat remarkable Convocation in the annals of the Calcutta University, for we are met together with the purpose, among others, of doing honour to a very distinguished group of persons. Knowledge and Science are cosmopolitan, and we have exacted tribute from far distant and far different countries to secure for our young men the teaching and leading of scholars of acknowledged genius and world-wide reputation in the various subjects which they profess.

We have reason to be well satisfied that our University should have been able to attract men of such brilliant accomplishments, and we owe a debt of gratitude to our Vice-Chancellor for the successful efforts he has made to this end, and I for one feel sure that there are not a few of our students who, in the days to come, will recognise with gratitude that they owe a broader outlook, a deeper insight and a greater depth of culture to the intellectual stimulus of contact with master minds such as these.

But we are not limiting our attentions to those who come from afar, and there is one who is giving the best years of his life to India, and two who are Indian born and bred whom we are proud to honour at the same time in recognition of their pre-eminence in the realms

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of Science, Law and Literature respectively. Upon the modest brow of the last of these the Nobel prize has but lately set the laurels of a world-wide recognition, and I can only hope that the retiring disposition of our Bengali poet will forgive us for thus dragging him into publicity once more and recognise with due resignation that he must endure the penalties of greatness. I value very highly the privilege that has fallen to my lot of conferring Honorary Degrees upon such an eminent group of learned scholars and authors.

It is no exaggeration when you say that I take great interest in the University of which I have the honour to be Chancellor, and that I am animated by a sincere sympathy with the intellectual aspirations of the people. You have dwelt at some length in your address on the new functions which our University is undertaking in connection with higher studies. You ask from me and from my Government constant co-operation, free sympathy with, and full approval of, your aims and efforts, and assistance in the fullest sense of the term. Of such co-operation and sympathy I do not think we have shown ourselves wanting, and I readily agree that financial assistance is the most urgent and patent need of the moment. Of this you have received no small amount during the term of my Chancellorship. In that period my Government has made you grants amounting to 12 lakhs non-recurring, and Rs. 68,000 a year recurring, thus making a considerable addition to the total annual contribution of the Government of India to the Calcutta University. I am sorry to say that I am not at present in a position to say whether we shall be able to increase this sum. As you are no doubt aware, the financial sky at present is not so bright as it was this time last year. This much I can however say, that the claims of the new Universities will not exclude the claims of Calcutta

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University when funds are available for the development along approved lines of the teaching and residential system and of research work, which enlightened opinion now accepts as desirable. It is necessary, however, to proceed cautiously in drawing up new schemes for an institution which, as you rightly say, will affect the moral, social and economic progress of the people of Bengal, and perhaps of the whole of India. My Government has already received proposals from the University of a very extensive character, and we are anxiously considering what, in the light of experience both here and elsewhere, are the lines on which it will be most profitable to advance. The general policy has been laid down in broad principles in the Government of India Resolution of the 21st February last. The application of broad principles to practical conditions is a matter calling for much knowledge, experience and patient investigation, especially in a country so circumstanced as India. I have no doubt, however, that in the fulness of time our University, thanks to the gifts of generous donors like Sir T. Palit and Dr. Rashbehary Ghosh and the assistance of Government, will become a centre of far-radiating influence for the higher education of the territories within the academic jurisdiction. I wish you, Senate of the Calcutta University, every good wish, and I can assure you that I and my Government are not less interested than yourselves in all that pertains to the progress of education in the highest sense of that term, which includes the formation of character, the cultivation of mind and the dissemination of an ever-widening influence of enlightenment.

DINNER AT CALCUTTA CLUB.

26th Dec. [On Friday night the 26th of December His Excellency Lord
1913. Hardinge dined with the members of the Calcutta Club. The dinner was held under a large *shamiana* erected in the grounds of the Calcutta Club at No 13, Russel Street. Sir Rajendra Nath Mookerjee, President of the Club, presided, and covers were laid for about 120 in all including the guests. His Excellency Lord Hardinge occupied a seat on the right and His Excellency Lord Carmichael on the left hand side of the President.

After dinner the toast of His Majesty the King-Emperor was proposed by the President in felicitous terms and drunk with customary honours.

Sir Rajendra Nath Mookerjee then proposed the toast of His Excellency the Viceroy, and in doing so he said:

Your Excellency and Gentlemen,—It is now my privilege and pleasing duty to propose the toast of His Excellency Lord Hardinge, the Viceroy and Governor-General of India.

Although this is not the first occasion on which His Excellency has honoured the members of this Club with his presence as their guest, it is with feelings of unbounded pleasure that we welcome him to-night, as it gives us an opportunity, long desired, of personally offering our congratulations on his miraculous escape last year from the hand of the assassin and of expressing our admiration and high esteem of His Excellency's courage and devotion to duty during that most trying period. I merely express the feelings of all in this large Empire when I offer our heart-felt congratulations to His Excellency and rejoice in his complete restoration to health. That dastardly attack has but served to proclaim with one voice—the voice of India—the regard and esteem in which Lord Hardinge is held by all, and to forcibly impress upon us his striking personality, wise statesmanship and kindly disposition towards the people of India. These qualities were conspicuous throughout His Excellency's speech at the First Legislative Council Meeting in Delhi, and even the most biassed critic of His Excellency's policy could not but admit that His Excellency is possessed of those sterling qualities of heart and mind which could with an earnest devotion to duty uphold the good name and honourable character of the mighty British Empire.

Gentlemen, this is not the place nor the time to touch on politics, which are apt to controversy, but it is universally admitted that it is far more difficult to practise the art of conciliation

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than the methods of autocracy. The spirit of conciliation denotes a noble character and admirably reflects the feelings of a kind and sincere man. That His Excellency is gifted with this noble virtue has been amply shown by his administration.

That His Excellency Lord Hardinge recognises the usefulness of this Club is proved (if proof is needed) by His Excellency's presence here this evening and by his generous and handsome contribution to our building fund.

Gentlemen, I am sure you will all unite with me in expressing our heart-felt gratitude to His Excellency for his kindly and gracious interest in our Club, and as a token of our sincere congratulation on his providential and miraculous escape and for the complete restoration of his health, I ask you to rise and drink with the utmost warmth the health of Their Excellencies Lord and Lady Hardinge. May God bless them with long life and continued happiness and prosperity.

The Viceroy replied as follows:—

Gentlemen,—I am profoundly grateful to you all for the very kind way in which you have received the toast of my health, and I thank Sir Rajendra Nath Mookerji very cordially for the extremely friendly terms in which it was proposed. I do feel genuine and sincere pleasure in enjoying once more your generous hospitality among so many friends, of whom there are some that I have not seen for nearly two years; and I am really glad to see them all again. At the same time let me say what immense satisfaction it has been to me to hear of the success of this Club in promoting feelings of friendship and esteem between Europeans and Indians in this city. This object is, I need hardly say, one that I have very much at heart, for as Sir Rajendra Nath Mookerji has rightly said—"Unity is Strength," and it is only by close union between Europeans and Indians, and by mutual understanding and appreciation that the many and difficult problems connected with the development and progress of this Empire can be solved to the advantage of the people who live in it. We all have our faults,

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and we must be mutually tolerant of our shortcomings and generous in our appreciation of each other's efforts. The inspiration of such sentiments is the keynote of the existence of this Club, and of such meetings as we have here to-night; and during the course of my wanderings throughout India I have more than once quoted the Calcutta Club and its aspirations as well worthy of emulation elsewhere. I rejoiced to hear that the Club had been prospering so much that it had been decided to rebuild the Club house and to extend its accommodation, and I trust that it will not be long before this is achieved. Long may this Club flourish and prosper, and may its good example be followed in all the great cities of India.

You have referred in your speech to an incident that occurred about a year ago, and I thank you warmly for your congratulations on my complete restoration to health. I often wish that I could blot out from the history of India that episode, which was an insult to the people of India, while leaving on record the true ring of the outburst of sympathy and loyalty by which it was followed. To me it was a convincing proof of what I already knew, that the heart of India beats true, and it was a source of comfort to me at a moment of disappointment. The very friendly demonstration of joy at my recovery shown on all sides, by rich and poor alike, on the occasion of my birthday, and the pleasure given by kind people to millions of children, more than compensated for any suffering that had been my lot. These are pleasant memories that I shall never forget. Let me also take this opportunity of saying how grateful my wife and I are to those who provided the children of Calcutta with a day of happiness.

This, Gentlemen, is a season when all but the most quarrelsome must feel the force of that beautiful Christmas message, "Peace on earth and good-will towards

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men," and I would be the last amidst such happy surroundings to say anything that might conflict with it. There is, however, just one point upon which, in the cause of truth, I venture to touch though in no controversial spirit. I have heard that it has been said that since the exodus of the Government of India, Calcutta was out of favour with me and my Government. Gentlemen, I beg that you will not believe a word of this. Speaking for myself, I have too many family associations with Calcutta for my interest in the prosperity of this city ever to wane, nor shall I ever forget the happy time that my family and I spent at Government House, and the good friends that we made there. Let me remind you also that I am still bound to you by the privilege, which I enjoy and value highly, of being the Chancellor of your University, as well as Honorary Colonel of the Calcutta Light Horse and of the Calcutta Volunteer Rifles, two of the smartest Corps of Volunteers in India. I may add that the prosperity of Calcutta, ever since the presence with you of your able and sympathetic Governor, has been a source of immense satisfaction to me. As for the Members of my Council, it seems to me that Calcutta, far from being out of favour, presents to them irresistible attractions, for, looking back upon the past six months, I find that all of them, except the Commander-in-Chief, who unfortunately has been ill, and the Revenue Member, who has been absent on leave in England, have visited Calcutta and have been treated with lavish hospitality by their friends. Even to-night I notice that one of them, my friend Mr. Ali Imam, has been unable to resist the attraction and is here. I need hardly say that I am delighted that this should be the case, and hope these visits may continue, since they present opportunities for ascertaining the local needs of this great city and for their friendly discussion between members of my Government and those most closely interested.

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And if there be any that say that they want deeds, not words, and would like to see their interests converted into a more material coinage, I must refer them to the remarks that I recently made in reply to the address that I had the pleasure of receiving from the Calcutta Corporation, when I hope that I succeeded in convincing the world of commerce in Calcutta of the deep and continued interest that I and my Government take in all that concerns the welfare, prosperity and development of the vast and ever-growing interests of this great city.

I am leaving Calcutta to-morrow night after a short but delightful stay in this city. As I have still nearly two years (one year and 11 months) of office to run, I hope to have another opportunity of visiting Calcutta and seeing you all again before I go home.

A *propos* of my term of office, I have been much amused by the lucubrations contained in a recent telegram to the English press, dated from Bombay, in which it was stated that ever since my illness last year I have left most of my work to the Members of my Council, and that unless my health improves considerably I will resign my post in February. In reply to this interesting, but to me somewhat startling, announcement, I can only say that the idea of resigning has never for one single instant entered my brain. As a matter of fact, even when my health was most shaken, I felt always confident that the climate of Simla would provide me with an absolute cure. In this I was not disappointed, and during the whole of the summer I was able to do 8 or 9 hours' work a day. I am now, thanks to the merciful care of the Almighty, as strong as ever again, and my one ambition is to serve my full time in India, and to be able to do some good for the people of this land who are entrusted to my care and whom I love so well. It is a pity that the gentleman who sent the telegram in question could not have been

Address from Junior Members of the Calcutta University Institute.

with me when one day recently I spent 13 hours in the jungles of Mysore after a bison, as we could then have seen at the end of the day which of the two ought to resign his post next February.

I will not trespass longer on your patience except to thank you all for your generous hospitality and for your kindly welcome to me in this Club.

Gentlemen, I give you the toast of the Calcutta Club. Long may it flourish.

ADDRESS FROM JUNIOR MEMBERS OF THE CALCUTTA
UNIVERSITY INSTITUTE.

[The Junior Members of the Calcutta University Institute sent the following address to His Excellency the Viceroy on the occasion of his visit to Calcutta. 26th Dec. 1913.]

The address was as follows:—

May it please Your Excellency,—The Junior Members of the Calcutta University Institute, on their own behalf as well as on behalf of the students of Calcutta, beg most respectfully to approach Your Excellency and Lady Hardinge with expressions of heartfelt loyalty and sincere gratefulness. Your Excellencies' names have been endeared to the students of Calcutta for your sympathy and kindness for them which have manifested themselves in many an act and expression. Your Excellency's interest in higher education, the large educational grants made by Your Excellency's Government, provision for hostels in amelioration of student life in this country—all betoken your active and generous sympathy. Your kind and thoughtful message to the students of our University in appreciation of the little they tried to do during the recent floods in our country has touched and won their hearts.

The Junior Members of this Institute have special reasons to be inspired with sentiments of loyal devotion; for the institution which has done so much in the past and which is still doing so much to provide a healthy moral atmosphere and a larger life and culture beyond the stereotyped routine of their daily classes, was called forth into existence by the generous help and support which the idea of its founder, Rev. Protap Chandra Mazumdar, received from a former Viceroy of India—Lord Lansdowne, and

Address from Junior Members of the Calcutta University Institute.

a Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, Sir Charles Elliot, whose constant care fostered and helped its steady growth during its infancy.

This institution was so fortunate as to attract the attention of Your Excellency when in reply to the deputation which waited on you in connection with the proposed University at Dacca, Your Excellency was pleased to make a kind reference to the work of the Institute. This interest which you felt in our work did not end here but showed itself in a form which, as we have been repeatedly assured, will make it possible to give the institution a habitation worthy of its name—we refer to the magnificent grant of 3 lakhs made by Your Excellency's Government.

It is not possible to give an adequate expression to the strong feelings of abhorrence and indignation which the news of the dastardly outrage on Your Excellency's person caused among us, and Your Excellency's visit to this city after recovery has called forth great rejoicings. The students of Calcutta remember with gratitude Your Excellency's birthday celebrations of the 20th of June last, on Lady Hardinge's suggestion and initiative, which gladdened all hearts, young and old, throughout the country. For very slight and inconsiderable services in connection with the celebrations, the Junior Members of the Institute were fortunate in winning Your Excellency's approbation. As a mark of such approbation, you and your generous partner were pleased to make a donation of two thousand rupees to the Students' Fund of the Calcutta University Institute,—a donation which will help many a poor student to continue their studies. Your Excellencies may be pleased to hear in this connection that as a pleasant memento of such celebrations one of our public-spirited benefactors has arranged to make over to the Institute a Hardinge Birthday Football Shield open to all college teams.

Now that after a long time Your Excellencies have come amidst us once more to this our beloved city, the Junior Members of the Calcutta University Institute embrace this happy occasion for giving an expression, however inadequate, of their deep feelings of joy and gratitude.

His Excellency was pleased to send an autograph letter in reply to the above address in the following terms:—]

My Friends,—I have been greatly touched by the friendly address that you have sent me and should like

Opening of New Buildings St. John's College, Agra.

to assure you that I value very highly the kindly feelings it betokens and the friendly sentiments it expresses.

There is nothing nearer my heart than the welfare, happiness and health, both of body and mind, of the young men of our Universities, and especially of the University of Calcutta of which I have the honour to be Chancellor.

I believe that you who have sent me this message stand for all that is best in University life, and I feel confident that you will ever maintain its high ideals. I thank you once more very warmly and I wish you all a very happy New Year. I hope that you will always regard me as your sincere friend.

OPENING OF NEW BUILDINGS ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE,
AGRA.

[Their Excellencies the Viceroy and Lady Hardinge arrived 9th Jan. at Agra on their way to Lucknow, on the morning of the 9th 1914. January in order to open the new buildings of the College.

The Principal of the College, the Rev. A. W. Davies, and Mr. J. F. Fanthome, the Secretary of the College, read the following addresses:—

May it please Your Excellency.—It is my duty and privilege, on behalf of the staff and students of St. John's College, to express to Your Excellency our sense of gratitude and appreciation for the great honour which you have conferred upon us by coming at so much inconvenience to yourself to preside at this ceremony to-day.

In the history of this College this day marks a very definite epoch. In the year 1850 Thomas Valpy French, a brilliant young Fellow of University College, Oxford, was sent out to Agra to found and build a Christian College, at the request of the English residents of the station and out of funds raised largely from among themselves. Just 60 years ago the building was opened where it still stands at the very edge of the busiest part of the Bazaar. To-day we ask Your Excellency to open this New Building as a mark of the progress that has been achieved and as an earnest of a fresh advance.

Opening of New Buildings St. John's College, Agra.

Starting as a small school, St. John's has passed through good and evil days. Guided through 20 long years of rapid expansion and development by the Rev. J. P. Haythornthwaite and enriched by the ripe scholarship and broad human sympathies of the present Bishop of Lahore, the College has reached a new stage in its career, and leaving in its old home the school out of which it has developed and to which it is bound by ties of almost filial affection, it looks forward to-day to all the great hopes and great responsibilities of man's estate.

But this event is to us more than a sign of growth and progress. Generous as have been the recent grants made by the Government to St. John's College—deep as is our obligation to Sir Swinton Jacob for the gift of its general architectural design—this New College represents the idealism of a group of men for whom it is the fruit of two long years of almost incessant anxiety and work.

Every detail of pillar and arch and railing, every curve of cornice and dome has been selected and worked out in our own office. And the work of Jaipur draftsmen and Agra mistrys has been superintended from start to finish by one of our own number—at first Mr. W. J. Thompson, and, when he broke down, the Rev. Percy Webber. It is with a sense of deep relief that the small building committee which has sat almost continuously week by week for over two years sees before it the end of its labours. And on behalf of those who have gladly given their talents or hand or brain or purse, I ask Your Excellency to accept this building as a gift dedicated to the highest welfare of this great land over which you have been called to rule.

Our aim is to make St. John's a College in something more than name. A place in which the Professor shall feel his duty does not end with his last lecture, and in which students shall regard their hostels as something more than cheap and convenient hotels. A place to which school-boys may look forward with glad anticipation and graduates look back with real affection and pride. A place where every Professor on the staff shall feel that he has entered a brotherhood and where, perhaps, the old word "fellow" may win back some of the meaning which it has lost in India.

These are of course ideals; but we have gone some way at least to realise them.

We have built or acquired five bungalows for Professors within a stone's throw of the College, and each of the three hostels has

Opening of New Buildings St. John's College, Agra.

at least one English warden living in the building and in immediate contact with his students.

The hostels accommodate about 175 out of our 260 students, and we shall shortly have room for about 50 more, while for the day students we are planning to provide special quarters so that they too may feel that they have a real place in the College life.

In these hostels, Hindus, Mohammedans and Christians live side by side and the two latter take their meals together in the dining hall, while, on guest nights especially, a thoroughly representative company of the staff assembles for dinner at the High Table.

The Old Boys' Association, under the Presidency of Pandit Giraj Kishore Datt, has done not a little to link together our graduates, and there are signs that it is entering upon a career of still greater usefulness and success.

In these and other ways we are trying to develop a true College spirit, that intangible thing, which is the greatest treasure that a College can possess or can bestow.

But we hope for something further yet. Believing as we do in the future of India, we hold it to be our duty as teachers to come as closely as possible into touch with the life and aspirations of our students, to share and even to stimulate their pride in the traditions of their country, to urge them to make its highest welfare their constant prayer and aim, and yet never to forget that it is our business to teach them also to weigh, to criticise and to correct.

This College would never have been founded, and most of us would not be teaching in it to-day, but for the conviction that no true education can be divorced from religion. In our daily Scripture teaching, and in other ways, we are doing all in our power to implant in our students a strong personal faith and a sense of private and public duty by familiarising them with the life and teaching of Christ. And we have strong evidence that this side of our work is appreciated not only by the parents who entrust their sons to our care, but also by the more thoughtful among the students themselves.

Our tasks are not yet over. There is still the last block of our hostels and the whole Science College to build; there is the great problem of water whether for our existing hostels, our projected laboratories or our blistered fields. It is not easy to exaggerate the difficulties or anxieties which this one factor is

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causing us during these days of reconstruction. There is above all the Chapel which is to complete this present building, and must be worthy of a city which was so long the Capital of the royal Moghul builders. But though all this lies before us, yet its actual execution will be entrusted to other hands than ours. And it is with the sense that from to-day we can lay aside the rôle of builders and give ourselves more fully to our proper work that we ask Your Excellency to crown what has been done, and to declare this New Arts Building of St. John's College to be open for use to-day.

ADDRESS OF THE ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE OLD BOYS' ASSOCIATION, AGRA.

May it please Your Excellency,—We, the President and Members of the St. John's College Old Boys' Association, beg most respectfully to approach Your Excellency in order to welcome you to our revered Alma Mater.

We beg to thank Your Excellency for undertaking the journey for the special purpose of opening the New College Buildings, and we also beg to express our pleasure and appreciation of the kindness of heart which has prompted you to do so.

There are some of us here present who have been connected with St. John's College since its foundation more than 60 years ago, and we have ever known it to stand for intellectual advancement and moral progress. Though we "Old Boys" have left it to go our several ways into the world our interest in its well-being continues unabated, and we are ready so far as in us lies to help on its ideals.

In token of that desire we "Old Boys" have formed ourselves into an Association, the objects of which briefly are:

- (a) to encourage the "Old Boys," and by our example to incite those men reading in it, to take an active interest in the work of their Alma Mater;
- (b) to promote friendly relations between the "Old Boys" and the Staff of the College and School; and
- (c) to promote the formation of character among its members.

We owe much to the high character and self-sacrificing labours of a succession of able Principals (two of whom are here to-day), under whom our early character was formed; and it is to the impressions then received and the habit of applying the

Opening of New Buildings St. John's College, Agra.

lessons learnt in our College days to the facts and experiences of the present that we owe the stability of our beliefs and our aspirations, which, while they prompt us to recognise in all that happens around us the hand of an All-wise Providence, they at the same time have fitted us to become loyal subjects of the British Crown and to deal by our fellow-men in the spirit of toleration and benevolence.

The motto which we have adopted is "Fear God and love the the King."

His Excellency the Viceroy replied as follows:—]

Ladies and Gentlemen,—It is a very great pleasure to me to be associated, in however small a degree, with the good work that is being done by St. John's College, and I take it as a great compliment that I should have been asked to take part in this ceremony. I think it must be generally known by this time how keenly I am interested in the question of the education of young India. I have had to deal with the subject in many speeches, and the money that has been poured out by the Government of India during the past few years for the improvement and expansion of educational facilities is sufficient testimony to the importance attached to this matter by my Government. I must, however, confess that sometimes I have a qualm of doubt as to whether this expenditure is being directed along the most useful channels, for not only do we sometimes see the products of our schools and Universities stranded without suitable occupation when their days of tutelage are over, but I also feel that in some cases the energies of teaching institutions are concentrated upon the idea of passing their boys through certain examinations, while such important matters as the character of their students and the tone of their environment, not to speak of their physical well-being, do not receive all the attention they demand.

I am not here to decry any efforts that are made to secure for young men in their early days such qualifications as are necessary if they are to get a good start in

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life, though I do think it is one of the most difficult problems before India to-day so to adjust the general life of the country that suitable careers may be open to the multitude of young men who are annually turned out to find no occupation appropriate to their aspirations and qualifications, and so to bend its educational system that the education given may be that best calculated to fit them for their various careers. This is a problem that besets us in England as well as in India.

I do not know how far the difficulties of the problem have forced themselves upon your notice here, but I believe that your Commercial Department is directly tackling the important question of multiplying openings and careers for your students, and I know that that other question of the character and well-being of your students occupies a most prominent place in your attention. You have realised the vital importance of the residential side of College life, the need for thorough supervision, and the value of the cultivation of close and friendly relations with your boys. The inculcation of ideals of social service has been your practice for years, and from all I can hear your labours have been attended with the happiest results.

Let me take this opportunity of saying a word of thanks to the President and members of the St. John's College Old Boys' Association for the welcome they have given me on this occasion. Their address bears ample testimony to the affection and regard they feel for their old College and the pleasant memories they carry away into after-life, and it also bears the impress of the wholesome traditions that prevail, which cannot but have a lasting influence upon the character of your pupils. It would be strange indeed if it were not so, for your inspiration here has always been a noble one, and whether we go back to the men who first came out to start what was then an educational experiment, or follow

Opening of New Medical College Hospital, Lucknow.

them down the line to those who are now carrying on the torch, they have all been animated by the highest ideals. The remarks of your Principal remind me that only a few months ago his predecessor was called to another sphere of work, a choice which evoked a unanimous chorus of approval, and when I read, as I did the other day, the words of farewell addressed to him by his boys and the parting message from his staff, I felt that you here in St. John's College not only have had leaders who were worth following, but have followed their lead *con amore*. The same spirit breathes in the words that your present Principal has used, and so long as it remains I shall have no doubts about the excellence of the work of this College.

And now I turn to the task which you have assigned me. Sir Swinton Jacob's is a name that will go down to many generations in connection with the notable buildings he has designed in various parts of India; and the help he has given you will add another laurel to his wreath not only for the beauty of his design, but for the generosity of his gift. I congratulate all those who have devoted so much thought and labour to the construction of these new buildings upon the success that has waited upon their efforts in striving to produce a result worthy of the traditions of this College; and I echo the conclusion of the beautiful prayer with which you commenced this work, that so long as one stone remains upon another it may ever stand for all things that are pure and lovely and of good report. I now declare this building open.

OPENING OF NEW MEDICAL COLLEGE HOSPITAL,
LUCKNOW.

[His Excellency the Viceroy and Lady Hardinge arrived at 10th Jan. Lucknow on the 10th January. During his stay His Excellency 1914. opened the Hospital.

Opening of New Medical College Hospital, Lucknow.

On the arrival of the Viceregal party at the Hospital a guard-of-honour of the Royal Fusiliers presented arms, and was then inspected by the Viceroy accompanied by Sir Robert Scallon. Sir James Meston then introduced Colonel Manifold, Inspector General of Civil Hospitals, to the Viceroy, and Colonel Manifold in turn introduced Major Selby, Principal of the College, and the other professors. The Viceroy was then conducted to a *shamiana* where numerous guests were assembled, and when he had taken his seat, Colonel Manifold read the following address:—

May it please Your Excellency,—It is a matter of congratulation to every one connected with the initiation and completion of this Hospital that they were so fortunate as to secure Your Excellency's consent to come here to-day, and they offer you a hearty welcome to Lucknow and to King George's Medical College and the Hospital in connection with it.

The ceremony which Your Excellency will perform to-day crowns the projects for the establishment of an institution in these Provinces in which their inhabitants can have their children educated to take a University Degree in Medicine, and be able to pursue the study of the highest branches of that art.

With Your Excellency's permission it may be appropriate here to glance over the history of Medical Relief in Oudh up to date of the evolution of this Hospital.

From former times Lucknow has always been a centre in which the Art of Healing has flourished and its physicians even in those days won for it undor royal encouragement fame as a centre for the practice and teaching of ancient Medicine. From an early stage in the history of Great Britain's close relations with the Kingdom of Oudh the attention of the British Representatives was directed to bringing to its people the blessings of Western Medical science. The year 1840 witnessed the founding of the first hospital in Lucknow in which treatment on modern lines was conducted. This was established by a deed of trust executed by King Muhammad Ali Shah in favour of the Honourable Company. In this it was stated that Dr. Stevenson of the Indian Medical Service, then Residency Surgeon, should treat those patients who desired European Medicine.

Excellent work was carried on in the institution known as the King's Hospital. But later on, with the increased demand for Western method of healing, the need for better accommodation and for greater opportunities of obtaining treatment became

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apparent, and the late Maharaja Sir Digbijai Singh of Balrampur founded in Lucknow in 1864 the hospital which bears the title of his family estates.

This latter was still further enlarged by the generosity of his successor, the present Maharaja, in 1900, and for a brief time the Balrampur Hospital was looked upon as satisfying all needs.

But the progress of Medical science never lingers and in no period has it advanced with such immense strides as in the past two decades, and with this advance the necessity for giving the people of Oudh further facilities for medical relief became more and more pressing.

It was seen that what alone could meet the case in these days of exacting requirements was the founding of a great teaching institution which through the agency of its graduates would shed the blessings of the healing art all over Oudh and other parts of these Provinces.

It is very possible that this great beneficent project might not even yet have developed into an existing reality had not one of the most auspicious events in the history of these Provinces occurred which supplied the stimulus for which all were waiting. This occurred in 1908 when Oudh was about to welcome for a second time in its history the Heir Apparent of the Empire and its future Sovereign.

The Taluqdars of Oudh with that notable loyalty which has always characterised their actions and which by this event was kindled to even higher enthusiasm, desired to evince their feelings by some permanent record which would for ever leave its impress.

They determined to mark the visit of Their Royal Highnesses by a memorial which not only itself would last but the results and work of which would continue for centuries in the furthering of those developments which they knew their future Sovereign and his illustrious Consort had so much at heart. And thus it came about that the needs of the silent masses were voiced by their leaders and feudal chiefs.

The idea of a Medical College for the Capital of Oudh originated with Raja Sir Tasaddug Rasul Khan of Jahangirabad and was warmly taken up by all. The Maharaja of Balrampur came forward with his usual princely generosity and many others gave their time, means, and talents to the organization of the project. Aided by the far-seeing advice of Sir Harcourt Butler, then Deputy Commissioner of Lucknow, and supported by the hearty

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approval of Sir James La Touche, the idea was quickly put into execution.

A committee was formed by subscribers and money came in so rapidly that though at the time of the Royal visit the matter had hardly gone beyond an outline, it was found possible to ask His Royal Highness to leave some material memorial of his visit and he graciously consented to lay the foundation stone which Your Excellency will now see on the left of the main entrance of the Hospital.

The final result we see in these splendid buildings of King George's Medical College which lie alongside of us in which is provided the highest class of Medical Education for students of Oudh and the neighbouring Provinces. These were formally opened by Sir John Hewett in January, 1912.

A Medical College, however, demanded a Hospital worthy of it, in which the knowledge acquired in the College class rooms could be still further developed for the good of humanity. The funds so generously subscribed to build the former could not, however, be expected to cover the cost of a hospital on a corresponding scale.

The Government of India now stepped in and generously undertook the whole cost of the erection and maintenance of a hospital which in every way should be a fitting annexe to such a magnificent Royal memorial.

Designs for the buildings were prepared by Sir Swinton Jacob after careful study on the spot of all that was best of the notable hospitals in the great medical centres of Europe. In the adaptation of these to the wants of this country he was assisted by the skilled and technical knowledge of the medical authorities of these Provinces.

The progress of the building of the hospital was superintended by an Advisory Committee of which the Inspector-General of Civil Hospitals was President, the actual construction being carried out almost entirely by Captain J. A. Grame, R.E., first as Sub-Divisional Officer and later as Executive Engineer. The sanitary arrangements were designed by Mr. Dixon Sweeny, and Major Selby has been in charge of the provision of the equipment.

Difficulties in regard to the hospital were encountered but eventually were overcome. And under the fostering eye of Sir

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James Meston the buildings have finally attained completion on a most thorough scale of finish in every detail.

They constitute a truly magnificent hospital of which these Provinces may well be proud, and the Taluqdars of Oudh may feel that Government have shown full recognition of their loyalty and generosity in the befitting accompaniment which these buildings make to their own Royal memorial.

Her Majesty the Queen has shown her deep interest in the welfare of the women of Oudh as well as in that of the hospital which bears King George's name by graciously permitting the wards of the hospital which are set apart for women to be called Queen Mary's Hospital for Women.

All present must feel that the inauguration of King George's Medical College Hospital being graced by the presence of Your Excellencies is particularly auspicious.

To the intimate friend of our late beneficent Monarch King Edward, whose humanity and absorbing desire to relieve the lot of the suffering and distressed were always so deeply evinced in his lifetime, we venture to think it must be a double pleasure to see the completion of a project which was originated during his reign, as a result of the visit of his august son our present beloved Monarch.

The presence of Her Excellency at the inauguration of this hospital, which allows not only of special treatment being afforded to women but also of clinical instruction being imparted in its wards to women students of medicine is doubly gratifying.

For all here deeply appreciate the part the courageous, generous-hearted lady present here to-day is taking in the foundation of a medical college, entirely for women, in the Capital of India.

We feel that Her Excellency by means of her great project is going to the heart of the problem which is of such vital importance to every inhabitant of India, namely, the abundant supply of skilled medical aid to its womenfolk.

We are encouraged by her presence to-day to believe that the clinical teaching for women students afforded by this hospital will successfully play the part of a modest forerunner whilst Her Excellency's great design is ripening into completion.

To describe the hospital buildings which Your Excellency will now have an opportunity of examining in their finished state is unnecessary. Suffice it to say that it has been the object of all connected with them to produce a Hospital which would be up to date and equipped with all modern appliances for the relief of

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the suffering poor of the United Provinces and for the efficient teaching of scientific medicine.

We now request Your Excellency will be pleased to announce the completion of King George's and Queen Mary's Hospital.

On the conclusion of the address Colonel Manifold presented to the Viceroy a very handsome silver casket the work of Messrs. Bechtler.

His Excellency replied as follows:—]

Gentlemen,—It has been no small pleasure to me to revisit the beautiful capital of Oudh; and it is with equal pleasure that my wife now makes its acquaintance for the first time, as she was unable to accompany me when I was amongst you before. Our visit was always meant to be friendly and informal; but I could not resist the invitation to preside to-day at the inauguration of the Hospital which bears, at their own express wish, the joint names of our august Sovereign and his Queen. Two years ago, when the opening ceremony at the adjoining College was performed by Sir John Hewett, this Hospital was little more than a shell of masonry; and the intervening period has been busily occupied in completing and fitting it up with all the latest appliances of the healing art. It is now fully staffed and ready for the reception of patients. Its imposing appearance is worthy of this city of palaces and shrines; and its internal organisation, I am assured, justifies the confident hope expressed by our present King-Emperor that the College and its appurtenances would be the "best in the East." I rejoice therefore at this opportunity of formally inaugurating the great and beneficent work which the Hospital is now prepared to do. I thank you, Colonel Manifold, for the address which you have just read; and I congratulate you and your fellow-workers—doctors, engineers, and administrators—on the completion of their labours and on the result in which you and the whole Province must feel a legitimate pride.

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Before this College and Hospital were established, your Province had many well-equipped hospitals and many able and devoted medical men. But it lacked any means of imparting instruction in the higher branches of medicine and surgery, and was thus dependent for its supply of highly-qualified practitioners on the products of other Colleges, Western and Indian. It was also deficient in facilities for medical research and for the training of scientific investigators in that field. India has owed much to the researches of Western men of science, but in the medical as in other spheres, her problems are in part her own, and require for their full solution the labours and the studies of men familiar with her conditions, working on her soil, and consecrated to her service. Thanks to the spontaneous and magnificent generosity of the Taluqdars of Oudh, the liberal co-operation and assistance of the Local and Imperial Governments, and the devoted labours of the officers entrusted with the task of carrying out the scheme, these deficiencies have now been removed. In the King George's Medical College your Province now possesses an institution admirably equipped for the training both of the general practitioners, who will carry amongst the people the benefits of Western science, and of the students who, we may hope, will carry on these researches into the causation and spread of diseases which have elsewhere yielded such ample fruit. In the Hospital you will have the clinical material which is necessary to supplement these studies, and to demonstrate the full possibilities of the art of healing in expert hands. But you will also have a new and powerful agency for mitigating the mass of human suffering which lies all around us in India.

The address alludes to the opening at Delhi of a Medical College for women, a project in which both Lady Hardinge and I myself are deeply interested. There is an immense field in this country for the work

Address from the Taluqdars of Oudh.

of competent medical women and an urgent need for an increase in their numbers. At one time, I understand, it was contemplated to have a separate College for medical women within these grounds. But the number of women capable of profiting by an advanced course of study in a Medical College is as yet too small to justify the establishment of separate Provincial Colleges of this nature; and the project was wisely abandoned. What is required is a large Central Female Medical College for the whole of India, such as I hope to see established within a few years at Delhi. But in the meantime there is ample scope for the work you are here carrying on, and I have learnt with pleasure that in the wards of this Hospital arrangements have been made for imparting clinical instruction to women students.

I have now sincere gratification in inaugurating the active work of King George's and Queen Mary's Hospital; and it is my prayer that this splendid building will have a career of ever-growing usefulness and success.

ADDRESS FROM THE TALUQDARS OF OUDH.

5th Jan. [During his visit to Lucknow the Taluqdars of Oudh presented
1914. the following address to His Excellency the Viceroy:—

May it please Your Excellency,—We, the Taluqdars of Oudh, beg to offer Your Excellency our respectful and cordial welcome on the occasion of your second visit to the Capital of Oudh.

We are grateful to Your Excellency for accepting our humble invitation to this afternoon's function.

On the occasion of your first visit we were disappointed by Lady Hardinge's absence owing to an unavoidable cause, and we expressed an earnest hope that when Your Excellency honours our Capital again you will be accompanied by Lady Hardinge. We are glad to see Her Excellency here to-day and offer her our sincere and hearty welcome.

When the news of the Delhi outrage came to us we felt with the rest of our countrymen a sense of shame for the action of the miscreant who besmirched the good name of our country, and

Address from the Taluqdars of Oudh.

even after a lapse of twelve months we can hardly find words to condemn the dastardly act.

We rejoiced then and rejoice now that the merciful Providence saved your and Lady Hardinge's life—lives which could be ill-spared—lives which have been and are being devoted to the loyal service of His Imperial Majesty and to the advancement of our country.

As a further mark of thanksgiving we beg to place at Her Excellency's disposal a sum of Rs. 5,000 to be utilised by her for any act of charity she may deem fit and proper.

For more than three years Your Excellency has been at the head of affairs of this vast Empire, vaster than any of the great Moghals with its attendant complicated problems. It is our pleasant duty to acknowledge to-day Your Excellency's sympathetic and statesmanlike administration and the successful overcoming of difficulties. It has strengthened our belief in the beneficence of the British Raj and has added one more imperishable link to our loyalty to the British Crown.

The progressive educational policy affecting all branches of education which has been introduced under Your Excellency's rule is very much appreciated, and it is hoped that under the fostering care of Your Excellency's Government it will result in the material and moral progress of the vast number of people whom Providence has placed under your care.

With the growth of educational institutions in our Capital and in view of the rapid strides the province is making towards education in all its branches, we are looking forward to a day when we will be applicants for a separate University for our province.

The pronouncement of policy which Your Excellency has made and the measures which Your Excellency has taken, with respect to the grievances of our countrymen in South Africa and Canada and the steps taken by Your Excellency to remedy the disadvantages under which they labour in those Dominions, have shown how eager and zealous Your Excellency is to maintain the just rights of our countrymen in other parts of the Empire under the sway of His Imperial Majesty the King-Emperor; they have earned for Your Excellency the gratitude of the whole of the Indian nation. The people of India have come to realize to the fullest extent the notion that they have got in Your Excellency a ruler who in time of need will ever be

Address from the Taluqdars of Oudh.

ready to respond to their genuine appeal and try his best to remove their just complaints.

Your Excellency, the spectre of famine is amongst us—a calamity with which we have been very frequently visited of late. Everything is being done by the Local Administration and ourselves to mitigate the sufferings of the affected. But the Taluqdars of Oudh have come to the conclusion that it is their bounden duty to the trust imposed on them to carry out the only preventive measure which will permanently remove the danger—we mean the construction of a Canal in the province. A memorial has been submitted to Your Excellency through the Local Government. The head of our province has promised us his support and we are anxiously waiting for the day—for we are fully convinced of its urgency—when your Government will be pleased to order the construction of the Sarda Canal. We have candidly admitted our mistake in the past in this matter, and for this reason we are more eager to rectify it.

The Sarda Canal will make a famine impossible in this province and will make this land of ours the Garden of India in reality. In this connection we acknowledge the persistent efforts of our energetic Honorary Joint Secretary, Hon'ble Sheikh Shahid Husain, which had our unanimous approval and support.

We, the Taluqdars of Oudh, are grateful to Your Excellency for giving to our provinces such a popular and sympathetic Lieutenant-Governor as His Honour Sir James Meston, K.C.S.I., who is so well acquainted with these provinces and their people and whose government we hope will be productive of substantial good to the people placed under his care.

We beg to assure Your Excellency that as in the past so in the future we shall ever remain devoted to the British Throne and will be second to none in our loyalty and attachment to the person of His Imperial Majesty the King-Emperor.

It is with genuine pleasure we read the contradiction of the mischievous rumours about your resigning your high office, and we beg to conclude with the earnest prayer that God Almighty may grant you and your noble consort long life and happiness, and that your rule during the rest of the tenure of your high office may be as prosperous and as glorious as it has been hitherto.

His Excellency made the following reply:—]

Taluqdars of Oudh,—This is the second occasion on which I have had the pleasure of enjoying your generous

Address from the Taluqdars of Oudh.

hospitality, but as you remind me, when I came here two years ago Lady Hardinge was unavoidably prevented from accompanying me, and it adds greatly to my enjoyment of this visit that she should be at my side to see your famous Capital and to make acquaintance with yourselves. And I speak for her no less than for myself when I tender to you our warm thanks for the very friendly welcome you have extended to us.

You have given once more expression to the universal sentiment of horror with which India received the news of the outrage at Delhi a little more than a year ago, and we thank you very warmly for your sympathy and congratulations upon our escape. The substantial token of thanksgiving which you propose to offer, and for which Lady Hardinge and I both thank you very cordially, shall be added to the large amounts contributed for the same purpose from all over India which have placed Lady Hardinge in the happy position of being able to assist so many deserving institutions, and in especial to brighten for at least one day in every year the dreary lot of children in hospital.

“Material and moral progress,” to which you have referred in connection with the people of this country, is the title of an annual publication relating to India, and I have somewhere seen it criticised on the ground that a perusal of its pages, while throwing ample light upon the progress of India in material prosperity, leaves the reader in the dark as to the steps which have marked her progress in the path of morality. I have no intention of entering into a discussion of so controversial a subject, but in this we can all agree that no progress on the one hand towards enlightenment or a higher ideal of life, or on the other hand towards greater prosperity, is possible without education; and I therefore gratefully welcome your appreciation of the spirit which has animated the policy of my Government, and especially

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of its attitude towards the question of education. We have spent money freely on its furtherance, and it is now our business to see that it is so spent that our young men may grow up to be honest and God-fearing citizens, equipped with qualifications that shall fit them for useful and honourable careers.

About South Africa I have nothing new to tell you. I and my Government have done and are doing our best to procure some alleviation of the conditions of which our Indian fellow-subjects in South Africa, not unjustly in our opinion, complain, and in furtherance of that end we have sent one of our ablest officers to represent us before the Commission that has been appointed by the Union Government. We may regret that the interests of the Indians have not been directly represented on that Commission, but we must recognise that its creation was a very great concession, and if its usefulness is wrecked and all our efforts are frustrated by the Indians in South Africa refusing to have anything to do with it, I shall sadly feel that they are throwing away a great chance which may never come to them again. The next few days should decide the matter and we can only hope that wiser counsels may prevail. In the meantime it is a source of satisfaction to me to see that the Indian leaders have resolved not to increase the present difficulties of the Government of South Africa, and I trust that they will maintain this attitude.

I am grieved to learn that famine conditions are likely to prevail in several large areas in the Province of Agra. In parts of Oudh there will be shortage, but I trust no grave or widespread distress, and we can rely now, as in the past, upon the well-known generosity of the great landlords of Oudh to help their peasantry through this time of trial. Government for their part will not be remiss in its measures of relief and everything that can be done to mitigate the trouble and avert

Address from the Taluqdars of Oudh.

human suffering is, His Honour assures me, well in hand. A peculiar feature of this season is the terrible scarcity of fodder, and I fear it is inevitable that the cattle will suffer severely. Fodder is pouring into the afflicted tracts from outside, and Government is selling enormous quantities at a heavy loss to the public exchequer, but it will hardly be possible to meet the whole demand, and it is in the loss of its agricultural stock that the people will be most severely hit. Irrigation will of course play its part, but your wells are drying up and you have no canal system in Oudh. You have made reference to the construction of the Sarda canal, and I understand that a scheme has been prepared for harnessing that great river, whose waters now run to waste, and carrying them to the Punjab.

This has roused you, as you say, to rectify the mistake you made in the past in deprecating schemes for canal irrigation. I can naturally make no pronouncement on the subject, but I shall not forget the wishes and sentiments to which you have given expression, and they shall have the fullest weight when the question of utilising the waters of the Sarda for canal irrigation comes up for my consideration.

I am very pleased to receive once more your assurances of devotion and attachment to the British Throne. The loyalty of the Taluqdars of Oudh is and has ever been eminent and unquestioned. Let me on my part once more assure you that the maintenance of your rights and privileges shall be the constant care of Government.

And I hope that you on your part will in the future as in the past continue to regard the British Officers of Government as your best friends and most trusted advisers. Believe me they are worthy of your confidence, for the United Provinces have acquired, and justly so, the reputation of producing officers of the

Opening of the New Buildings of the Rajput Schools at Jodhpur.

very finest type. Some of the names on the roll of your Lieutenant-Governors bear eloquent testimony to the character and ability that have distinguished your administrators. I need hardly remind you of John Thomason, a pioneer in popular education; Sir John Strachey who was once described as the ablest man who has come to India since Warren Hastings; Sir Alfred Lyall, the philosopher, statesman and author; Sir Auckland Colvin, a financier and administrator of Egyptian no less than of Indian reputation; to these should be added the names of Sir Charles Crosthwaite, Lord MacDonnell and Sir John Hewett. Nor need I remind you of my able and trusted colleague in the Government of India, Sir Harcourt Butler, to whom both the city of Lucknow and educational progress in India owe so much. In the high office of Lieutenant-Governor of these Provinces you have in Sir James Meston, who, as Financial Secretary to the Government of India, was one of my most trusted advisers, a man known all over India for his judgment, capacity and devotion to duty, in whose hands the governance of these Provinces is safe, and upon whose solicitude for your interests you can rely. It is a source of much satisfaction to me to hear from your own lips an expression of your appreciation of his appointment as your Lieutenant-Governor.

Let me thank you once more for the generous hospitality with which you have entertained us and the very cordial welcome you have given us, and let me tell you that the Taluqdars of Oudh will always have a very warm corner in my heart.

OPENING OF THE NEW BUILDINGS OF THE RAJPUT
SCHOOLS AT JODHPUR.

8th Feb
1914.

[His Excellency the Viceroy accompanied by Her Excellency Lady Hardinge and staff paid a visit to the Jodhpur State, arriving at Jodhpur on the 8th February. Their Excellencies

Opening of the New Buildings of the Rajput Schools at Jodhpur.

received an enthusiastic reception from large crowds who had gathered to welcome them.

During the course of the day His Excellency opened the new school buildings, at which the Principal of the College read the following address:—

Your Excellencies, Your Highnesses, Ladies and Gentlemen,—This 8th day of February 1914 will assuredly be a memorable one in the annals of Marwar Rajput Education. Here on this platform are gathered Your Excellencies, His Highness the Maharaja Sahib of Jodhpur and His Highness Maharaja Sir Pratap Singh, our Regent. It was with deep sympathy last year that we learnt that Your Excellency's health would not permit of your laying the foundation stone of this building, and it is therefore with the greatest pleasure that we welcome you to-day restored to health and strength. We rejoice, too, to see His Highness the Maharaja Sahib amongst us again after his long sojourn in England under the care of Major Strong, and I am glad to inform you that he has already given a proof of his interest in the Rajput education of his State by kindly presenting to these schools a set of apparatus for geographical teachings.

To His Highness the Regent Sahib is due the fact that we are sitting here to-day; he was the originator of the Nobles' and Elgin Schools, he revived them when their fortunes were at a low ebb, and in conjunction with our Resident, Colonel Windham, and Mr. Gwyder, the late Finance Member, he was responsible for their present development on lines hitherto not attempted in this, nor I believe in any other Native State. The history of these schools may be briefly outlined as follows:—In 1875 two small schools, the first of their kind in Rajputana, were started for the sons of Nobles; in 1886 they were combined and reorganized under the title of the Powlett Nobles' School, so named after Colonel Powlett, then Resident here. Many boys who have since distinguished themselves in the service of the State were sent from this school to the Mayo College; notable among these were Maharaj Zalim Singh, brother of His Highness the Regent, and Maharaj Fattah Singh. In 1896 Maharaja Sir Pratap Singh started a school for poor Rajput boys, who were fed, clothed and educated at State expense; this was opened by, and named after, Lord Elgin, and was in 1899 amalgamated with the Nobles' School; later the schools again separated and continued with varying fortunes until Sir Pratap Singh was appointed Regent in 1911; he promptly reunited the two schools and set on foot the scheme for developing them on the present scale. In April 1912 I was appointed Principal, and less than a

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month later the plans of the new buildings had been prepared and the site, the happy idea of Colonel Windham, chosen. In November 1912 the first stone was put into the ground, and now 15 months later the present imposing buildings have been erected at a cost to the Durbar of over 4½ lakhs. The original design is that of Mr. G. J. O'Brien, late State Engineer, but it has been elaborated and the entire work carried out by his successor, Mr. C. Skelton, who may fairly be congratulated on the result of his labours. The main building contains accommodation for 4 vernacular classes upstairs and 10 classes, studying up to the Matriculation standard, downstairs; in addition there are a Library and Reading-room, Principal's office and daftry, and this imposing hall, the largest in the State. The boarding-house for the Nobles will accommodate 50 boys, all of whom pay for their education, while each of the other three houses will comfortably take 120. I venture to hope that Your Excellency will graciously allow your name to be associated with one of these houses. There is a swimming-bath, which in cold weather will serve as a gymnasium, stabling for 30 horses, quarters for 25 teachers, as well as a hospital; the extensive grounds will be utilized for cricket, hockey, football, and parade-ground, while for the Nobles a riding-ground is provided. A thorough physical training is one of our chief aims, and a great stimulus has been given to this by the invaluable help and encouragement given by our Finance Member, Major Pattersen. It may not be out of place to mention that, when the Rajputana School sports were last held in Ajmer, our five competitors carried off three first prizes as well as a special prize for the best individual performance of the day, and our school stood third out of 27 competing schools. We do not aim at turning out merely passers of examinations, but the physical and moral development of the boys are two of our chief objects: by this means we hope to send out a steady supply of boys well fitted to serve their State in its various departments and to maintain the proud tradition of the Rajput. To guard against the evils of over-education I have outlined a scheme which will, I hope, be a stimulus to Rajput education in the district schools and also bring the number of our own admissions within the limits which make for efficient training—our present numbers are just under 300, and over 300 more have applied for admission. With regard to the Nobles' I have strong hopes that this school will stimulate interest in education among the Sardars, so that we may not only do good work here, but also send a larger number of boys to the Mayo College than heretofore.

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In conclusion, I feel that it is a matter for the heartiest congratulation that Your Excellency, so keen a promoter of education on the soundest lines, is graciously pleased to extend your patronage and interest to the education of the Rajputs in Marwar by performing to-day the opening ceremony of our new Rajput Schools.

To which His Excellency made the following reply:—]

Your Highnesses, Ladies and Gentlemen,—The inauguration of these new buildings marks a forward step in the educational policy of Jodhpur, and indicates a development with which it gives me the greatest possible pleasure to find myself associated.

The account of the school that has just been given us shows that its past career has been somewhat chequered, but now that the Elgin School and the Powlett School have once more been reunited and have found a worthy abiding place in these buildings, there is every reason to hope that its future is assured.

In some respects the arrangements here remind me of those formerly in force at one of our oldest English public schools, and I can wish no happier future for this institution than that it may form a similar tradition of its own, so that the boys may leave it not only animated by the highest ideals, but with their intellect and character thoroughly developed, as well equipped to hold their own in the battle of life as their ancestors were in the stormy days when learning was of little account and a good sword arm, a brave heart and a good horse were the only requisites for success.

Being a public school man myself, I am perhaps somewhat biassed in favour of that form of education; it is impossible, however, not to recognise that its advantages are to some extent discounted when differences of caste and creed and social custom operate to prevent boys from living together as one family. That happily is a difficulty you have not to face here, where the school is for

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Rajput boys and all can meet on a common footing, and I cannot but think that the manly virtues of high courage and unswerving loyalty inherent in the sons of Rajputana will form as fitting a tree as can anywhere be found whereon to engraft our English system. This institution owes its existence largely to the wisdom and genius of His Highness the Regent Sir Pratap Singh, and I regard it as of happy augury that His Highness the Maharaja of Jodhpur should himself in these early days have shown his substantial interest in its success. There is no question but that it begins its career with fortunate omens, and the large number of applications for admission is in itself a demonstration that it supplies a real demand.

You do not in any way contemplate entering into competition with the Mayo College, and indeed the stimulus to education derived from this foundation will rather, I hope, increase the number of your Nobles who pass on to that, but you look forward to turning out boys well equipped for their various walks in life, and from among them no doubt will be found many who are destined in the future to do good work in the service of the Jodhpur State.

Those who have been responsible for the actual design and construction of these buildings are fortunate in having had at hand this beautiful red sandstone, and I congratulate them upon the finished product of their labours.

I accept with pleasure the invitation that I have received to give my name to one of the Boarding Houses, and Lady Hardinge and I are equally pleased to give our names to the medals to be instituted as prizes for the best all round boys at work and at sport respectively; and I take it as a compliment that my name should be so closely associated with the life of this school, regard-

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ing the future of which such high hopes may justly be entertained.

I have great pleasure in declaring these buildings open.

STATE BANQUET AT JODHPUR.

[His Highness the Maharaja entertained Their Excellencies to a State Banquet in the evening of the 8th February, at which about 80 guests were present. 8th Feb. 1914]

Sir Pratap Singh proposed the Viceroy's health in the following terms:—

Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,—It is nearly a year since Your Excellencies were to honour this State with a visit, but unfortunately our hopes could not then be realized on account of the sad incident at Delhi. Ever since the day I learnt of Your Excellency's inability to come here last year, I have been eagerly looking forward to the day Marwar would have the pleasure and honour of Your Excellency's visit; and on behalf of the Marwar Durbar I now beg to offer the heartiest and warmest welcome to Your Excellency and Lady Hardinge. It is a special privilege and honour to the Marwar State to receive in this way a visit from a Viceroy and Governor General who has so completely identified himself with all that concerns the welfare and advantage both of the Princes and people of this ancient land.

I will not trouble Your Excellency here by referring at any length to the affairs of this State, with the guidance of which Your Excellency did me the high honour to entrust me during the present minority. I only hope that Your Excellency will from a personal inspection of things be satisfied that the confidence reposed in me has been justified.

His Highness the Maharaja has now returned from England to his own State and people, with his mind and outlook on life enlarged by education at a public school; by travel and a general introduction to the affairs of the world under the inspiring influence of a sympathetic and conscientious guardian, Major Strong; and lastly by the inestimable advantage of having come under the favourable notice, and almost parental regard and care, of his Sovereign, who honoured him with his close personal friendship. It will now be my proudest duty to be associated with such further measures as Your Excellency may direct for

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His Highness's administrative training and preparation for the position of Ruler of the splendid heritage to which he has succeeded.

I would now in conclusion merely wish to bring to Your Excellency's notice, and to express my thanks for, the continual help ungrudgingly given me at all times by my esteemed friends the Hon'ble the Agent to the Governor General and the Resident, and by all Members of the Regency Council individually and collectively; and particularly I should like to express the deep obligation I feel to Your Excellency for the kind support and sympathy that I have always received at your hands, without which I should at times have felt my task as Regent of the State wellnigh impossible.

Ladies and Gentlemen, I ask you to join me in enthusiastically drinking to the health, long life and prosperity of the Illustrious Representative of His Majesty the King-Emperor, Lord Hardinge of Penshurst, and his gracious wife, Lady Hardinge.

To which His Excellency made the following reply:—]

Your Highness, Maharaja Sir Pratap Singh, Ladies and Gentlemen,—I desire to thank you, Sir Pratap, very cordially for the kind terms in which you have proposed my health and for your sympathetic allusions to the causes which prevented my paying my projected visit to Marwar last year. Though I was deeply disappointed at being compelled to postpone for so long the pleasure of seeing with my own eyes the capital of one of the leading and most interesting States in far-famed Rajputana, the delay has brought its compensation not only in the cordial reception which you personally have accorded me, but in the opportunity which it has afforded me of welcoming His Highness Maharaja Sumer Singh back to his State after two years of public school life in England. I am sure all of us here to-night are delighted to see His Highness return full of health and strength. It was only after the most anxious consideration that I decided, with the full concurrence of the Maharaja Regent, to take the important step of sending His Highness to England, but from what I have heard of the progress

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which His Highness has made during his stay there and his popularity both with the masters and his school-fellows, I am confident that the experiment has been crowned with success, and that the public school training, which His Highness has received, will have implanted in him true ideals of morality, honour and justice, while it has left his love for his country and her noble traditions unimpaired. His Highness's subjects will, I am sure, be gratified to learn that it is proposed that His Highness shall complete his general education in Jodhpur in order gradually to familiarise himself with those local administrative problems with which he will shortly be called upon to deal.

I would remind His Highness that the task of governing a State of the size and importance of Jodhpur is one calculated to tax the energy and test the ability of even the most experienced, and that the more assiduously he applies himself to the study of its administration in the time which remains before he is invested with powers, the easier will that task become and the more efficiently will it be performed.

I have no doubt that the Council of Regency will continue to discharge their onerous duties with that energy and ability which have characterised their proceedings in the past, and will hand over to His Highness a prosperous and contented State. I am glad to take this opportunity of expressing my high appreciation of the success which has attended their labours.

It would be invidious for me to attempt to apportion the credit of this success among the individual Members of the Council, but I feel sure that I shall raise no resentment when I say that to the personality and sound judgment of His Highness the Maharaja Regent Sir Pratap Singh are mainly due the efficiency to which the administration has attained, and the harmony which has always

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marked the relations between the Council and my Political Officers in Rajputana. We all know him as a gallant gentleman and one of the finest sportsmen in India, a grand old Rahtore, but I doubt whether every one knows what a magnificent administrative record Sir Pratap has behind him.

In the early eighties Jodhpur was not the peaceful country it is now, but dacoity and turbulence were rampant in the land; Maharaja Jaswant Singh was on the *gadi* and called to his aid Sir Pratap, who had already won his spurs as an administrator. Sir Pratap himself took the lead against various gangs of freebooters, and his activity and energy rapidly evolved law and order where chaos and disorder had hitherto prevailed; and then under his guidance boundary disputes were settled, real courts of justice established, criminal tribes reclaimed, the customs reformed, a treasury started, debts paid off, and funds provided for public works. From that time, too, date the Imperial Service Troops, whom I am to have the pleasure of inspecting the day after tomorrow. Some of them served with distinction in the Tirah Campaign, where Sir Pratap was also present, and later under his leadership maintained their fine reputation in the China Expedition; and I have no doubt that in the future as in the past they will always be ready, and more than ready, for similar service should occasion arise. When, therefore, two years ago arrangements had to be made for the administration of the Jodhpur State, I had cause to deem myself fortunate in being able to avail myself of the services of a man of Sir Pratap's ripe experience, administrative ability and integrity of purpose, and I can confidently claim that time has amply justified the wisdom of my choice. It only remains for me to congratulate him most cordially on the liberal and enlightened policy which has been pursued in the Jodh-

Death of the Earl of Minto.

pur State and the progress and development which have resulted from his able guidance.

It will not be long before His Highness the Maharaja will take over the reins that have so skilfully been held during the Regency, and, with the great traditions of the Rahtore clan behind him and all the world before him, he may look forward to a career of honourable distinction worthy of his ancestry, and he may rest assured that throughout its course he will carry with him the warm and hearty good wishes of all who know him.

Ladies and Gentlemen, I ask you to join me in drinking to the health and prosperity of His Highness the Maharaja of Jodhpur, coupled with the name of that veteran soldier and administrator my friend Maharaja Sir Pratap Singh.

DEATH OF THE EARL OF MINTO.

[At a meeting of the Imperial Legislative Council His Excellency 2nd Mar.
took the opportunity of making a few remarks on the death of the 1914.
Earl the news of which had reached India the night before.

His Excellency said :—]

The sad news reached India last night that the Earl of Minto had passed away, and I am sure that I shall only be voicing the thoughts that are uppermost in the minds of you all, if I pay a brief tribute of sorrow to the memory of your late Viceroy and of sympathy with the gracious lady who has been left behind to mourn his loss.

And indeed no more fitting place could be chosen for this sorrowful purpose than this Council Chamber for Lord Minto's name will go down to history indissolubly connected with the expansion of the Legislative Councils that marked such a definite step in the political progress of India. It has long been agreed that it was a wise step,

Retirement of General Sir O'Moore Creagh, Commander-in-Chief of the Forces in India.

but I think it must also be admitted that it was a brave step for it required wisdom and courage of no mean order to recommend the grant of an extension of political privileges at a time of unrest and when political outrages of a murderous character had recently begun to blacken the pages of Indian history.

Lord Minto, gallant English gentleman that he was, held on his course with a cool head and fearless heart, and I think we have much to thank him for in the free spirit and friendly atmosphere of this Council Chamber.

So I would ask your permission to send in your name a message of our deep and heartfelt sympathy with Lady Minto in the grievous loss which has befallen her.

RETIREMENT OF GENERAL SIR O'MOORE CREAGH,
COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF THE FORCES IN INDIA.

2nd Mar. 1914. [His Excellency the Viceroy made the following remarks in connection with Sir O'Moore Creagh's retirement, at a meeting of the Imperial Legislative Council held on the 2nd March 1914 :—]

Before the Hon'ble Finance Member begins his financial statement I should like to take this opportunity, which I believe will be the last on which His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief will be present in Council in our midst, of expressing to His Excellency the warm appreciation of myself and my Government of his long and distinguished service in this land.

It is now over 47 years since Sir O'Moore Creagh first wore His Majesty's uniform as an Ensign in the 95th Foot. In 1870 he was transferred to the Indian Army in which he successively commanded the Merwara Battalion and the 2nd Baluchis as well as holding several staff appointments. From 1878 to 1880 we find His Excellency engaged in the Afghan War where his distinguished service gained for him the much coveted and highly valued hon-

*Retirement of General Sir O'Moore Creagh, Commander-in-Chief
of the Forces in India.*

our of the Victoria Cross, while he also received brevet promotion. In 1890 His Excellency was again on active service in the Zhob Valley when his services were again recognised in despatches. In 1898 Sir O'Moore Creagh was appointed Political Resident and General Officer Commanding at Aden. He proceeded later to a Brigade command in the China Expedition where his good services won for him the K.C.B., and subsequently he commanded the whole of the British Forces there. On return from China His Excellency took up the important command of a Division in India and later on was selected by Lord Morley to fill the post of Military Secretary at the India Office.

For the last 4½ years His Excellency has exercised the chief command of the Army in India and in this position has worked strenuously and has carried out measures for the efficiency and improvement of the Army which have added greatly to his already high reputation. During his period of command in India His Majesty the King-Emperor, to whom His Excellency had been appointed Aide-de-Camp General, visited this country and conferred on the Commander-in-Chief the high distinction of the G.C.S.I.

It is with sincere regret that I lose the loyal services of this gallant officer who not only has succeeded in acquiring and maintaining the respect and esteem of all ranks of the British Army in India, but also the affection and devotion of the Indian officers and men of the Indian Army.

In leaving us after a life devoted to India and the Indian Army he will carry away with him to his home the good wishes of us all for his continued health and prosperity during the evening of life which we trust will be blessed with much happiness as a fitting reward for his long and distinguished service to the Crown and to India.

Chiefs' Conference at Delhi.

We can assure him that in India his memory will always remain green and we are confident that with him India will not be forgotten.

CHIEFS' CONFERENCE AT DELHI.

3rd Mar. [His Excellency the Viceroy in opening the proceedings of the
1914. Conference which was held at Delhi on 3rd March said :—]

Your Highnesses and Gentlemen,—It is with the greatest pleasure that I welcome you once more to Delhi and to this Council Chamber, which was the scene of your deliberations a year ago. Your Highnesses' presence here, in spite of the discomforts of the journey and the difficulties of accommodation in this temporary city, is a clear indication, if one were needed, that your interest in the higher education of your sons and Sardars has in no way abated, and that you are ready and eager, as the Ruling Chiefs of India have ever been, to share with me and my Government the burden of Imperial rule. The object with which you are gathered is one which, I need hardly say, is as close to the hearts of the Government of India as to your own. For it is on the education and enlightenment of the Ruling Chiefs and their Sardars that the moral and material progress of India in no small measure depends.

I was glad to learn from the proceedings of the last Conference that, after a discussion which displayed in a remarkable manner the capacity and public spirit of those who took part in it, you decided unanimously that it was desirable to establish an institution for the higher education of boys from the Chiefs' Colleges, and that a separate College should be founded, to be called, with His Majesty's permission, "King George's College," which would seek the privileges of a Degree-giving institution.

Chiefs' Conference at Delhi.

I was further glad to note that the majority of you were prepared to support your opinion by generous donations and subscriptions, amounting in all to a capital endowment of about 15 lakhs of rupees. I wish to take this opportunity of congratulating Your Highnesses on your enlightened sense of the needs of your own States, and of the Indian Empire in general.

The questions which remain for discussion by this Conference will appear from the list of *agenda* which you have before you. As regards the first item on the list, it will be within the knowledge of most of you that an opportunity was recently given to the general Councils of the Chiefs' Colleges to consider an alternative plan to that adopted by the Conference last year for attaining the object which we all have in view. Briefly, the alternative suggested by the Government of India was that, in place of a single institution providing instruction for all classes now educated at the Chiefs' Colleges, there should be two separate institutions, one for Ruling Chiefs and their near relatives, and the larger estate-holders who would not require the hall-mark of a University Degree, and another for Sardars and others requiring a Degree. The former class might, it was suggested, be served by the Imperial Cadet Corps developed on new lines, and the latter by a separate Sardars' College or hostels at selected Colleges. I gather from the proceedings of the College Councils that this alternative plan has not met with general approval, and that the majority of the Chiefs are in favour of adhering to the original plan. It will be for the members of this Conference to determine now whether that plan should now be finally adopted. I have no wish to prejudice your decision, but I should like to make it plain that the alternative suggestion was put forward mainly because I was advised that the original plan was not wholly approved by a certain number of the more

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important Chiefs, and because it seemed desirable, before another Conference was held, to give a further opportunity of discussing this all-important question. Should you now decide to adhere to your original resolution, you may be assured of my full sympathy and support.

The next question for discussion is that of the location of the proposed College. I understand that the larger body of opinion is in favour of Delhi as being more central than Ajmer, and in anticipation of this view being adopted, I have already taken steps to secure that a suitable site in the vicinity of the new city should be reserved for this object.

The remaining questions are of comparatively slight importance, with the exception of that which appears last on the programme, namely, the question of finance. This presents a problem which will require your very careful consideration. The position at present is not altogether reassuring. The amount required for the establishment of the proposed College is estimated at Rs. 64 lakhs, or Rs. 75½ lakhs, if a science course is provided. The subscriptions and donations already promised, including the annual subvention of half a lakh which the Government of India have undertaken to recommend to the Secretary of State, amount to a capital sum of approximately Rs. 28 lakhs. There remains therefore a sum of at least Rs. 36 lakhs to be collected if the College is to be properly equipped and endowed. By what means and from what sources is this large sum to be obtained? That is the problem which you now have to solve. I have already informed you that the Government of India are prepared to recommend an annual subvention of half a lakh of rupees towards a scheme which meets with their approval, and I regret that I am unable to hold out hopes of a further grant from Imperial revenues. It seems therefore that if the scheme is to go forward, the Ruling Chiefs

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of India must either combine together to find the extra 36 lakhs required or must be prepared to invite contributions from the aristocratic families of British India. The latter course would naturally involve, not only the admission of selected youths from British India into the proposed Higher College, but also the representation of these families on the governing body. I shall be interested to learn what is the opinion of the Conference on this question, which vitally affects the prospects of the proposed institution.

There is another problem of subsidiary importance, not connected with the subject of this Conference, as to which I shall be glad to have Your Highnesses' views before you return to your States. The matter will be explained to a select committee of Your Highnesses later when the proceedings of the Conference are concluded. I mention it here as an indication of my desire to treat Your Highnesses as my trusted colleagues and to seek your collective opinion, whenever possible, on matters affecting the interests of your order.

[After the Maharajas of Bikanir and Indore had spoken, the Viceroy said:—]

I thank you warmly for the friendly words you have spoken, and I can assure you that the ideas therein expressed by His Highness the Maharaja of Bikanir have my warm sympathy. I will now leave Your Highnesses to your deliberations.

TREATMENT OF INDIANS IN SOUTH AFRICA.

[At a meeting of the Imperial Legislative Council held at Delhi 17th Mar. on the 17th March 1914, His Excellency the Viceroy made the following statement on the above subject:—] 1914.

Before resuming the business of Council I am anxious to avail myself of this opportunity to give to Hon'ble

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Members all the information in my possession on a subject which has recently occupied the very serious attention of the Government of India, that is to say, the troubles that have arisen in South Africa in connection with the treatment of Indians in that country. This Council will recollect that in consequence of the outbreak of passive resistance and of the strikes in Natal in the month of November last, the South African Government appointed a Commission to investigate the causes of the disturbances in Natal and to formulate proposals for dealing with the alleged grievances of the Indian population. That Commission was presided over by a Judge of the Supreme Court assisted by two Members, and a forecast of their conclusions was made public yesterday in the daily press. The Report of the Commission has been laid on the table of the Union Parliament at 2 o'clock to-day, and I should now like to explain in fuller detail to my Council the significance of the Commission's Report.

In the first place, the Commission recommend the repeal of section 6 of an Act passed by the Natal Government, No. 17 of 1895, which imposed on indentured Indians who have completed their service of indenture and failed either to re-indenture or to return to India an annual license tax of £3. I do not desire to weary the Council with a complete history of the negotiations between the Natal Government and the Government of India in 1894 and subsequent years which preceded the imposition and subsequent modification of this tax. Its imposition arose from the fear entertained by the Natal Government that indentured Indians, on completion of their indentures, would settle in that Colony in such numbers as to form an embarrassing problem to those interested in the future of the country. The Government of India at that time desired to secure the continuance of emigration to Natal as forming a valuable outlet for the surplus agricultural population, while maintaining

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that failure to return to India or to re-indenture at the end of the original indenture period should not entail criminal prosecution and the penalties that are ordinarily attached to breaches of the criminal law. From this point of view, the action subsequently taken by the Natal Government, that is to say, the imposition of a £3 tax on those who failed to re-indenture or to return to India after the expiry of the period of the original contract, was considered to be the most reasonable solution of a very difficult question. Modifications in the £3 tax have been made from time to time by legislation with the object, amongst others, of exempting such women as were not in a position to pay. But it has been felt for some time that the tax was undesirable and burdensome, and since the complete cessation by order of the Government of India in 1911 of all indentured emigration to Natal, the retention of this tax and its capricious enforcement, even though it is not levied on more than a small number of those liable, has been a constant source of irritation among Indians in Natal. When the Immigration Act of 1913 was passed, it was hoped in many quarters that the occasion might be utilised to repeal this objectionable impost; but this unfortunately was not done.

The Government of India welcome the recommendation of the Commission for the repeal of the tax, and although they fully realise that the Government of South Africa are not definitely committed to the findings of the Commission, they earnestly hope that the Government of the Union may accept this proposal and give effect to it at the earliest possible date by means of the necessary legislation.

Next in importance to this question of the repeal of the £3 tax, there is the necessity of providing by some form of legislation for the position of women, either in South Africa or desiring to enter South Africa, who are married to Indians by a form of union which is not at

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present recognised by the laws of that country. The South African legislature has hitherto shown disinclination to give any form of legal recognition to marriages performed according to the rites of any religion which permits the practice of polygamy. This attitude has been necessarily extremely embarrassing to Indians in South Africa whether married to one or more wives, who desired to obtain recognition for at least one wife. The Report of the Commission contains numerous recommendations intended to meet the reasonable requirements of Mahomedans and Hindus in respect of this difficulty. The substance of their recommendations is that a law should be passed providing for the appointment of marriage officers from amongst the Indian priests of different denominations whose duty it would be to solemnise future marriages in accordance with the religion of parties to the transaction and duly to register the same. Only one marriage in each case can be so solemnised and registered, and it will then have the great advantage of ranking entirely with any other marriage contracted under the laws of the Union. Existing actual monogamous marriages are to be similarly recognised by this law, and further provision is to be made for the admission into the Union, along with her minor children, of one wife in the case of any Indian who is married according to the tenets of his religion whether it recognised polygamy or not outside the Union of South Africa, provided that she is the only wife in the country.

Further, and this I venture to think is a very noteworthy and important proposal—it is recommended that Indians, after registering one wife in the manner to which I have already referred, should not be debarred in any way from contracting other marriages according to their own religious rites, though it will of course be impossible to accord to such marriages any form of legal recognition whatsoever.

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Next the Commission have dealt with some minor grievances which formed the subject of protest on the part of the Indian population in South Africa against the recently enacted Immigration Act. They have recommended that a clause in the Act which repeats the provisions of a law of the Orange Free State directed against the immigration of Asiatics should, I understand, be made unobjectionable by the issue of executive orders of a nature calculated to remove all cause for dissatisfaction. Also that certain existing restrictions, with regard to the issue of certificates enabling Indian residents in South Africa to leave the country and to return within stated period, should be modified in a very favourable manner. Measures are also recommended for increasing the facilities for the issue of permits to those Indians who desire to visit the Union for temporary purposes.

In these recommendations I find a very complete and satisfactory attempt to arrive at a final solution of the difficulties that have arisen in South Africa, and I should like to take this opportunity of expressing the warm appreciation of the Government of India of the broad and statesmanlike manner in which these difficult questions have been approached and dealt with by the Commission. I believe the presence and active co-operation of Sir Benjamin Robertson, to whom we are indebted for his firm and conciliatory attitude, has very materially contributed to the formulation of these proposals, and I feel confident that if, as I sincerely hope will be the case, they are adopted by the Union Government and combined with sympathetic administration of the existing laws, they should undoubtedly lead to a lasting settlement.

The Commission of Enquiry regretted very greatly that the Indians, for reasons to which I need not refer, failed to appear before them and to give evidence not only on the questions with which I have dealt, but in

Address from the Bombay Municipal Corporation.

connection with the various cases of ill-treatment which were alleged to have occurred at the time the Commission was appointed. I share that regret, and I cannot help thinking that the Indians would have been better advised had they accepted the counsel I tendered to them in my speech in Calcutta in December last when I strongly urged that they should appear before the Commission and give their evidence on all matters that were referred to that Tribunal for enquiry. The Commission, through labouring under some disadvantage as a result of this abstinence, have framed their recommendations on broad and liberal lines; and should the South African Government give effect to these recommendations by legislation, I sincerely trust that the settlement thus embodied in the law will be accepted in this country by all loyal subjects of His Majesty the King-Emperor.

ADDRESS FROM THE BOMBAY MUNICIPAL CORPORATION.

20th Mar. [His Excellency the Viceroy and party arrived at Victoria
1914. Terminus at 8 o'clock on the morning of the 20th March. The Railway Volunteers formed a guard-of-honour inside the station. Outside a picturesque note was struck by the presence of a contingent of sailors from the flagship who lined the streets nearest the station. The Light Horse marched in from their camp, 15 miles distant, to form Their Excellencies' escort. The Viceroy drove in a carriage with the Governor of Bombay, and Lady Hardinge was accompanied in the second carriage by Lady Willingdon. The procession drove direct to Government House along Queen's Road.

The first public function took place at noon when the Viceroy went to the Town Hall to receive an address from the Municipal Corporation. He motored down from Malabar Point with the Governor, and Lady Hardinge and Lady Willingdon were also present. The Town Hall was crammed with Indians whose enthusiasm was irrepressible. When the Viceroy entered the Hall in procession the whole multitude rose and cheered wildly for several minutes. Tremendous applause broke out again whenever the President,

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reading the address, came upon some passage appreciative of His Excellency. Lord Hardinge received another ovation when he spoke in reply.

The address was as follows :—

May it please Your Excellency,—More than three years have elapsed since the Municipal Corporation of this City had the honour of welcoming Your Lordship on your first arrival in India and of giving expression to the hope that the peaceful achievements of Your Lordship's administration would rival the victories under arms which Your Lordship's famous ancestor gained in this country more than seventy years ago.

Once against we have been accorded the privilege of bidding you welcome to our City, and in doing so we beg Your Lordship to accept our most grateful acknowledgments of Your Lordship's steadfast and successful endeavour to effect for the benefit of the people of this great continent all that wise statesmanship and human sympathy can devise. In common with our countrymen in other parts of India we citizens of Bombay heard with feelings of horror and dismay of the dastardly attempt upon Your Lordship's life in Delhi, and the grief which we all felt at that most foul and detestable outrage was only equalled by the admiration evoked in all hearts by the cool courage and splendid fortitude of Your Lordship and Lady Hardinge during that time of trial and by the universal sentiment of relief at the news of Your Lordship's ultimate recovery. Since the assassination of Lord Mayo forty-two years ago no event has stirred the hearts of the people of this country so profoundly, and in its ultimate effect *no circumstance has served to deepen and vivify* the sentiments of loyalty to British rule of all sections of varying shades of thought in so striking a manner as that unhappy incident.

In one of Your Lordship's first speeches after your convalescence Your Lordship assured the people of India that the grave peril through which you had passed had made no difference to the feelings which you had ever entertained towards them; and we most gratefully acknowledge not only the deep sympathy which prompted those words but also the fact that Your Lordship's personal policy has unswervingly been directed towards nobly fulfilling that assurance. The people of India will not lightly forget Your Lordship's statesmanlike settlement of the trouble in Cawnpore, as also your firm and conscientious endeavour to support the cause of their fellow-countrymen in South Africa.

Another incident in Your Lordship's administration which the people of this country will ever joyfully remember—an event

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unprecedented in the annals of India—an event which sent a wave of loyalty and contentment throughout the land—was the visit of Their Imperial Majesties the King-Emperor and Queen-Empress to this country to announce their Coronation in person to their Indian subjects. The historic pronouncement made by His Most Gracious Majesty on the occasion of the Delhi Durbar of the administrative changes inaugurated, on the advice tendered by Your Excellency, for the better administration of this country and the greater prosperity and happiness of the people, and Their Majesties' loving message to their subjects, will ever remain fresh in their hearts, and we cannot allow this opportunity to pass without giving expression to our feelings of gratitude to Your Excellency for having appreciated the deep significance of 'Their Majesties' presence amongst the Indian people and for having so successfully directed the course of Their Majesties' sojourn in this land.

With especial pleasure do we hail Your Lordship's presence in our City, synchronizing as it does with the completion of the great docks which we feel confident are destined to inaugurate a fresh era of prosperity for our Island; and we take pride in the thought that those fine works, to be visited in due season by the shipping of the world, are to be formally declared open by the descendant of one whose prowess on the high seas roused the admiration and gratitude of the citizens of Bombay more than a century ago.

Apart from the new docks, Your Lordship will witness manifold signs of the improvement and development of this City. When welcoming you to our shores, we had expressed the hope that Your Lordship's Government would render adequate financial assistance towards the improvement of the City. Representations on the subject were subsequently addressed to Your Excellency's Government who were pleased to place at the disposal of the Government of Bombay a grant of Rs. 50 lakhs for the City of Bombay Improvement Trust and to recognize the principle that the work of improving this City which is the Capital of this Presidency and one of the greatest trade centres of the Empire is a matter not merely of local or provincial interest but also of imperial concern.

So far as our resources will allow we are endeavouring to take a liberal view of our responsibilities and co-operate with Government and other local public bodies in developing the amenities and commercial facilities of the City. On the construction of new roads and the general improvement of communications we have during the past ten years spent about 60 lakhs and our sanctioned programme for the future shows no sign of decrease. Of recent years one of

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the chief obstacles to sanitary reform and general progress has been the inadequacy of our water supply. To remedy this we have undertaken the raising of the Tansa dam and the duplication of the main at a cost of about 73 lakhs, exclusive of subsidiary works that will subsequently be necessary and will bring the total cost to over a crore of rupees. We hope that the increased water supply will be available by the end of 1915 and that its advent will mark a distinct advance in sanitary efficiency and commercial prosperity. Meanwhile we are preparing for the change by increasing the size of our sewers and the power of our pumping plants at considerable cost; while to safeguard the public health and render possible the development of an important portion of the island we have recently begun the construction of a deep sea sewage outfall which with the new pumps recently installed is estimated to cost 43 lakhs.

One of the most serious problems that faces our City, lying as it does but a few feet above the sea, is the disposal of the large volume of storm water which finds no natural outlet. We have made some progress with the construction of covered and properly graded-storm water drains, but in certain parts of the island large areas otherwise suitable for development are rendered useless and dangerous to health by the existence of open storm-water drains and reservoirs from which it is at present impossible to exclude sullage water. We hope that the day is not long distant when we shall be in a position to adopt measures to remove these undoubted sources of discomfort and disease.

The improvement of the public health of a large City such as this which is liable to recurrences of serious epidemic disease cannot naturally be effected save by sustained effort for many years, and seeming setbacks to progress are inevitable; nor is it safe to be unduly optimistic when statistics seem to prove that a real advance has been achieved. We would, however, respectfully draw Your Lordship's attention to the almost continuous decline in plague mortality from 26 per mille in 1903 to 2.66 per mille in 1913. In the latter year our total death-rate per mille was 32.47, which is lower than any corresponding figure since 1895 and compares favourably with that of any large City in the East. We venture to believe that the measures we have so far taken to secure the public health have under Providence had some share in this result and we are thereby encouraged to persevere in our efforts in the future.

In conclusion, we desire to offer our most cordial wishes, and to bid God-speed, to Her Excellency Lady Hardinge on her departure for England. Her Excellency has set before India a splendid

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example of sympathetic and courageous womanhood, and whose work for India within her own sphere of womanly activity merits the thanks of the people no less than the achievements of Your Lordship's administration.

We beg Your Lordship to accept this address from the City of Bombay with an expression of our sincere hope for Your Lordship's prosperity in future years and with our fervent prayers for the undisturbed welfare of the British Crown.

His Excellency replied as follows :—]

Ladies and Gentlemen,—Although this is my first official visit to Bombay as Viceroy, I am glad to think that it is all the same my fourth visit to this magnificent city, since in addition to the occasion of my first landing on your shores, when you and others gave me a very cordial welcome, of which I have still a lively remembrance, I have shared with you all the unique privilege of offering a loyal and hearty welcome to our Sovereign the King-Emperor and his gracious Consort the Queen-Empress, and have shared your regrets on their departure from your hospitable city. In thanking you to-day for the very friendly welcome you have given to Lady Hardinge and myself, I wish to assure you that it gives me particular pleasure to be once more in your city, and to have the advantage of meeting again the members of the Municipal Corporation of Bombay.

It is difficult for me to realise that nearly 3½ years have sped since I made my maiden speech in India in reply to the address of welcome with which you greeted me upon my first arrival. Looking back I feel how little I then realised the enormous responsibilities and strenuous toil that lay before me, but I did undoubtedly appreciate the kindly feelings which animated your address on that occasion, and I felt that it was a good omen for the friendliness of the atmosphere in which the next five years of my life were to be spent. I have had to face, and somehow to surmount, difficulties that

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at times seemed almost insuperable; there has been plenty of criticism and plenty of opposition to contend with, but, as I think I have said before, criticism and opposition have their value, and so long as they are inspired by no mean or self-interested motive they are to be welcomed, and indeed when you consider the enormous problems to be dealt with in India, and the gigantic interests involved in any large question of policy, it would be very astonishing and a poor compliment to the intelligence and public spirit of India if there were not fair criticism and reasonable opposition. In the numerous tours that I have had to make I have received many scores of addresses and, considering how high feeling runs about some of the vital questions of current politics, I should like to give public testimony to the almost invariable courtesy which has characterised the addresses that have been presented to me, and to-day when I come back to you, who gave me my first warm welcome, I feel that it would have been a perfectly justifiable course on your part to weigh my conduct of the affairs of State in the balance, and while giving me due credit for such parts of my policy as had met with your approval, to urge in all courtesy the remedy of any grievances and the supply of any deficiencies that had impressed themselves upon your attention; but as I listened to your address I realised that whatever my deficiencies or mistakes may have been, you have determined on this occasion to turn a blind eye to them, you have been at pains to avoid all contentious questions, and have taken the trouble to pick out the incidents of the past 3½ years which have commended themselves to your approval. I find it difficult to express to you how greatly I am touched by so friendly an attitude on your part, and I only hope that on the whole I have not disappointed the expectations with which you admitted me through the gates of India. I can honestly claim to have been inspired by high motives, and to have

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laboured hard and unceasingly, but I am not foolish enough to think my self impeccable, and even the soundest and wisest actions of a Viceroy must often fail to secure the approval of considerable interests.

The attempt upon my life to which you have referred in such sympathetic language brought me a great deal besides bodily pain, and grief for India; it brought me also a wealth of affection and kindly feeling, which might not have been stirred, and would certainly have remained unknown, if I had not had that unpleasant experience. It has taught me also to understand and value at their true worth the heroic qualities of that little band of our Indian fellow-subjects whose special duty it is to cope with the cult of political assassination. With no watchword on their lips but duty, they have gone steadily about their work, some of them boycotted, in the teeth of a constant stream of abuse, and carrying, as sad experience has proved, their lives in their hands. When this frenzied propaganda has finally disappeared and been forgotten, a day that may not come in my time but that I hope for the credit of India may not be long delayed, the pages of Indian history will remain the brighter for the memory of the gallantry of these your countrymen, who have shown a courage as magnificent as that of any of your most famous warriors.

I will not enlarge upon that wonderful visit of Their Most Gracious Majesties to this distant portion of their Empire, an event with which it was my happiness and my privilege to be so intimately associated, but with you I can never forget the storm of enthusiasm which followed them wherever they went. They left their impress alike upon the sentiment and the administration of this country, and I can assure you that their solicitude for, and interest in, the prosperity and happiness of their millions of Indian subjects continue unabated.

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I will not here say anything about your new docks, for to-morrow I am to have the opportunity of seeing them and the honour of opening them; I will only congratulate you upon this magnificent addition to your commercial amenities, and I trust that, when your claim to the proud title of *urbs prima in Indis* is contested on the score of wealth or population, your docks and shipping will serve to counteract any sentiments of depression or pessimism you might otherwise be disposed to entertain.

I well remember that I was very cautious in what I said to you $3\frac{1}{2}$ years ago about granting any assistance to your City Improvement Trust. I did not know my ground, and was anxious to avoid giving rise to any false hopes. But I did not forget your request, and it was a source of considerable gratification to me that my Government were enabled, during the year 1913-14, to make to that body a grant of 50 lakhs of rupees. I note with pleasure your appreciation of that grant. The improvements, which are being effected in your city by the Trust, under the able direction of the Hon'ble Mr. Orr, will not only result in a vast amelioration in sanitary conditions; but you as heirs to the Trust will eventually inherit a magnificent property. Cordial co-operation between the two bodies is the more essential, and I note with pleasure from your address that you fully recognise this necessity.

Your Corporation has long set an example to the rest of India of efficiency and zeal for the public interests, and the measures which you are undertaking in order to secure an increased and more efficient water-supply will, I trust, make it possible to secure a constant high pressure water-supply in Bombay. This will obviate the necessity for private storage of water, and is a measure of prime importance not only as a protection against malaria, but also as a safeguard against the possible importation of

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yellow fever into India, ensuring, as it must, a reduction in the breeding places of the stegomyia and other mosquitoes. The problems you have to cope with in connection with the disposal of your sewage, storm water and sullage are of immense complexity and difficulty, but you are grappling with them with a courage and resource that I heartily commend, and I most sincerely hope that the deep sea sewage outfall that you have now undertaken may fully justify your expectations, and effectually remove the present contamination of the western foreshore, and convert that locality into the pleasant residential quarter which its natural advantages so eminently fit it to become. I congratulate you very warmly on the improvement that you are able to indicate in the statistics of public health, and particularly in the almost continuous decline in plague mortality; such results show a perseverance in combating this fell disease which is highly commendable and which would be impossible without a man of marked ability for your health officer to whom you had given your confidence and support.

And now, Gentlemen, I have done; I have endeavoured, and I hope I may have succeeded to a certain extent, to make you realise how very deeply I appreciate the friendly spirit in which you have received me; to-morrow I have the sad task before me of saying good-bye to Lady Hardinge for some months of separation, but for her and for me alike the sorrow of our parting will be a little cheered by your friendly words and good wishes, which will give us both encouragement and good heart to carry on our duties during the remainder of my term of office. I thank you at the same time warmly on behalf of Lady Hardinge for your good wishes and for your God-speed on her journey, and may I say, as the person who is perhaps best able to judge, that the words of appreciation that you have been pleased to use

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regarding her and her work for India within her own sphere of activity are not one whit exaggerated.

Gentlemen, I thank you again for your loyal and most friendly address.

OPENING OF THE ALEXANDRA DOCK AT BOMBAY.

[During His Excellency the Viceroy's visit to Bombay he opened the New Alexandra Dock which had just been completed. 21st March 1914]

In asking His Excellency to open the dock, the Trustees of the Port addressed the Viceroy as follows:—

Your Excellency.—We, the Trustees of the Port of Bombay, respectfully desire to tender to Your Excellency our grateful thanks for the honour conferred on us by your presence here this morning.

Your entrance into the Alexandra Dock marks the commencement of the useful life of an undertaking which was inaugurated in the year 1905 when His Majesty the King-Emperor (at that time His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales) laid the foundation stone of this dock.

In the address then presented to His Royal Highness it was stated that, during the period of 30 years that had elapsed since the foundation stone of the Prince's Dock was laid, the sea-borne trade of this port had increased from 48 million pounds sterling to 98 million pounds. This rate of increase has been greatly accelerated while this dock has been under construction and the value of the sea-borne trade for the financial year ending 31st March 1913 reached the large figure of 142½ million sterling; while the tonnage of shipping entering the port, which, during the first period, increased from 1½ to 3¼ million tons, has further increased to 4½ million tons. The revenue of the Trust in the first period increased from £134,000 to £450,000, while during the past year it amounted to nearly £600,000.

The trade of the port has outgrown the accommodation that is available for it in the Prince's and Victoria Docks, and the opening of the Alexandra Dock will afford great relief, and will, it is anticipated, still further stimulate the growth of trade.

The present docks are able to accommodate 27 vessels of lengths ranging from 300 to 500 ft. and vessels nowadays have frequently to wait for several days before they are able to enter. The

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Alexandra Dock provides berthing accommodation for 17 more vessels of 500 ft. to 520 ft., while another berth for a vessel of 425 ft. is available at the end of the jetty.

The Trustees are also constructing a communication passage between the Alexandra and the Victoria Docks which will provide 4 more 500 ft. berths. In addition to this the Harbour Wall frontage will extend for a length of nearly 6,000 ft. and will provide berths for vessels with a depth of water at mean of lowest Ordinary Spring Tides of 28 ft. It may be safely stated that the port will, when these large extensions are completed, be capable of accommodating three times the tonnage for which berths are at present available.

The conveniences afforded by the new dock, however, go beyond this. Provision is made at the mole for a berth to which the mail steamers can go immediately on arrival and from which passengers can step straight from their vessel into trains to proceed to the farthest corners of India, while the Postal Department is provided with a large sorting shed where mails can be expeditiously sorted on arrival. Passengers proceeding home will also go on board at this mole.

Nor are His Majesty's troops neglected, for a berth and a station are being provided for their accommodation by which means the tedious and expensive method of transport by lighters from the ship to the shore and *vice versa* will be avoided.

The area of this great dock is 49½ acres, while the depth is 37' 6" at mean high water, thus placing it among the principal single docks in the world both as regards area and depth of water. This dock is, however, part only of the very large scheme which the Trustees are now gradually bringing into operation by which the commercial facilities of the port will be enormously increased. The reclamation, partly from the sea, and partly of low lying ground, of an area of 580 acres has lately been completed by means of two large suction dredgers. To this area it is expected that the trade in grain and seeds and manganese ore will very shortly be transferred, to be followed by the cotton trade, thus setting free for other purposes land which is so badly needed in Bombay.

The Trustees are further engaged in the construction of a large railway receiving and sorting yard in which wagons from the Great Indian Peninsula and the Bombay, Baroda and Central India Railways will be received from up-country and will be distributed by the Port Trust Railway, which is also under construction, to their respective destinations in the several trade depôts or the docks.

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By improvements in the railway facilities in the existing docks, and by the laying down of suitable lines for serving all berths in the Alexandra Docks, the trade of Bombay, which is at present chiefly dealt with by the slow and expensive agency of the bullock cart, will be revolutionised.

Attached to the Alexandra Dock is the Hughes Dry Dock, so called after Sir Walter Hughes, the late Chairman of the Board, to whom credit must be given for the inception of these great works. This dry dock has at present few equals in the world and has been specially constructed to meet the wishes of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty so as to accommodate the largest battleship.

The length of this great Dock is 1,000 ft., while the width of the entrance is 100 ft. and the depth over the blocks at mean high water is 33' 6" at entrance and 32' 6" at head.

The total expenditure on all these works is estimated at about 6½ million pounds sterling.

We would now respectfully ask Your Excellency to declare the Alexandra Dock open, and we beg that you will be pleased to accept the casket containing this address as a memento of this occasion which we believe will mark the commencement of an era of increased progress in the trade of the Port of Bombay.

His Excellency replied as follows :—]

I am particularly glad that it should fall to me, at the invitation of the Bombay Port Trust, to open this fine new dock in Bombay, of which the foundation stone was so appropriately laid by His Majesty the King-Emperor, then Prince of Wales, in the year 1905. Bombay indeed may justly claim that it has a special connection with the Crown of England; for it came first to the British Government as a Royal possession, it has welcomed the Prince of Wales as a visitor twice in recent history, and it was in Bombay that His Majesty first landed in India on the occasion of his memorable visit two years ago. You, in Bombay, Gentlemen, are, I am sure, proud to recall how both the first and the most recent of your fine wet docks has sprung from the foundation stone laid by the heir to the Throne of the British Empire. The great Alexandra Dock,

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which is now ready for use, was commenced in the year 1905. Had its completion not been unfortunately deferred, it would, I know, have been the desire of the Port Trust to approach His Majesty with a view to his performing to-day's interesting ceremony on the occasion of his recent visit. Owing to unforeseen difficulties such a Royal opening was not possible. Instead it becomes my pleasing task to declare the great work, which was initiated in the Royal presence nearly nine years ago, open.

But though our King-Emperor is not here in person I can truthfully say that he is present in spirit, for, when I informed His Majesty that I was about to perform this ceremony, he has sent me a message which he has asked me to deliver.

These are His Imperial Majesty's most gracious words:—

“I rejoice at the happiness of completion of the great undertaking, of which as Prince of Wales I laid the first stone in 1905. The new docks which you are opening have been planned and constructed on such a scale as not only to constitute Bombay one of the finest ports in the East, but also to afford a just measure of the growing importance of her commerce and that of all India, and to be an enduring monument of the spirit and enterprise of her citizens. I desire you to convey to all those who have shared in labours of accomplishing this noble design and to those who represent the great commercial interests, whose uses and convenience will be served by it, the expression of my warm congratulation and of my earnest good wishes for the increasing welfare of the port.”

I have also had the honour of receiving the following gracious message from Her Majesty Queen Alexandra:—

“It is with the greatest pleasure that I send heartiest congratulations and my good wishes to the opening of

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the dock which I am proud to think will bear my name and of which the foundation stone was laid by my dear son in 1905. The people of India may be assured that I take the greatest interest in all that concerns them and their welfare, and I send my blessing to this important undertaking. Alexandra."

Bombay, with its magnificent harbour and its ample shipping, has felt the need of dock accommodation ever since it first became a British possession. We read in the records of the East India Company of the construction of the first dry docks in this Island being sanctioned in the year 1689, when the ships of the East India Company came here to refit from the wear and tear of the long sea voyages, or from the results of their encounters with the pirate fleets of the Western Coast. Many years seem to have elapsed ere the project then sanctioned came to fruition. I would like to remind those who have been tempted to complain of the unavoidable delay in the completion of the present work that the first dock in Bombay was not completed until sixty years after its construction was approved; but in time the docks were built; and in the 18th century, as we learn from the records of observant visitors, these docks were "the pride of Bombay and the astonishment of travellers." Since then Bombay has been true to its traditions. One fine dock has succeeded another to meet the needs of its ever-growing commerce. In the year 1875 the Prince's Dock was commenced. It was completed in 1880. In 1885 the construction of the Victoria Dock was undertaken to be completed in 1888. These works, which till recently sufficed for the requirements of its shipping, have a basin accommodation of some 30 and 25 acres, respectively. But the port has continued to thrive, and the increasing trade has led to the demand for yet more ample accommodation. In 1905 the last of these great enterprises, the conception of your late Chairman, Sir Walter Hughes,

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was undertaken; and we have now before us the fine prospective of a basin some 50 acres in extent with three miles of quays, including a splendid dry dock, 100 feet in width and 1,000 feet in length. It is not alone in its liberal dimensions that the Alexandra Dock claims attention as a work of signal interest and importance, I am informed that, in spite of many willing recruits, the labour supply available proved unable to meet the requirements of the contractors in charge of this work. For the first time, I believe, in the history of such enterprises in India steam shovels, equivalent to the work of 600 labourers, were employed to supplement the manual labour of the workmen. This is a notable innovation. Apart from the shortage of labour there have been many difficulties with which the contractors had to cope. Once indeed in a time of high monsoon flood, the temporary dam was nearly breached; a few inches alone stood between the waves and the flooding of the whole basin in the course of excavation. All obstacles have, however, at length been surmounted, and Bombay may justly claim to-day the proud position of owning the finest docks in Eastern waters.

Gentlemen, it is to me a matter of profound satisfaction that the commercial progress of your port continues unabated. Fifty years ago the Fort contained within its walls sufficient space for the business needs of Bombay. Now it seems doubtful whether you can find adequate accommodation for them in the whole Island. The present dock scheme indeed includes the addition to the Trust property of a considerable area filled by a novel process of suction dredging. You, in Western India, should take a special interest in reclamation, for tradition, which is familiar to every student of Hindu mythology, tells how the hero Parashurám shot an arrow from the crest of your rock-bound Ghâts and drove back the sea from the underlying strip of country now bearing the

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name of the Konkan. The Port Trust, following this ancient and venerable precedent, has continued to drive the sea from your shores, and has given you from its bed a large part of the fine dock scheme which is before us to-day.

Your Chairman, Gentlemen of the Port, Trust, in his interesting address, has told me how the shipping and the sea-borne trade of Bombay has trebled itself in the last 40 years, an achievement of which the citizens of Bombay may justly be proud. He has also described the special facilities which will in future be available for the berthing of mail steamers and the convenience to passengers using the port. I congratulate the Port Trust on the thoroughness with which these schemes have been conceived. I am sure that I can count on unanimous approval when I say that the Bombay Port Trust has most efficiently discharged its responsibilities to the trade and shipping of the port since it was launched on its career of useful work under the direction of the first Chairman, Colonel Ballard, R.E., in the year 1873.

Now a few words regarding the future of your port. I have already referred to the interesting statistics which Mr. Sprott has given me regarding the steady growth of shipping and trade in this Island. I believe that the future holds even more remarkable results in store for you. I am convinced that you have no grounds for alarm in the growing prospects of the sister port in Sind. In my opinion there is ample room in Western India for both Bombay and Karachi. The Government of India welcome the steady progress of these Western ports, and you may rest assured that all measures tending to promote the welfare of either will receive our cordial encouragement and support. I do not think you have had any occasion to complain of the attitude of the Government of India towards the comprehensive scheme for the improvement of the facilities of your port, of which this

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new dock is only one important item, and I may remind you that we recently gave substantial assistance to the funds of the Port Trust by lowering the rate of interest on certain debts due to Government from $4\frac{1}{2}$ to 4 per cent. It has always been the wise policy of your Trustees to provide the greatest possible facilities for trade at the lowest possible cost, and the magnificent waterway at your disposal has enabled you to reap the advantage of being the cheapest of the great ports in India; but I am doubtful whether but for the concession to which I have referred it would have been possible for you to finance your great schemes without raising your dues and fees. With your central position, your beautiful waterway, and the remarkable enterprise of your citizens, you should be fully able to face the future with assurance. And as you have reminded me the volume of your trade has gone on steadily rising in the past until in the year 1912-13 it reached the magnificent total of 214 crores of rupees, a volume exceeding that of any other Indian port and giving your city, I believe, the first place among all ports in Eastern waters.

It is a record of which you, in Bombay, may well be specially proud. I have every confidence in the increasing prosperity of India. I see signs in numberless directions of future progress, commercial and industrial, and in this Bombay cannot fail to secure a large and legitimate share.

I cannot conclude without a word of congratulation to Sir Walter Hughes in whose fertile brain this scheme first took shape, and to you, Sir, under whose auspices it has been modified and brought to a successful conclusion. Great credit is due to Mr. Messent, who as Chief Engineer has been responsible throughout for the design, and to Mr. Savile, who has been Engineer in charge, nor must I omit a word of praise in which, I think, I shall have your unanimous approval to the

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contractors, Messrs. Price, Wills & Reeves, who have thus successfully surmounted difficulties so many and so great.

I cannot help feeling that the Alexandra Dock is beginning its career under specially auspicious circumstances for to-day is the festival known as Jamsetji Naoroj which all good Parsees hold to be a day of happy omen especially in view of the fact, which I understand to be the case, that the Senior Member of the Port Trust is a Parsee, while from a Hindu point of view I believe propitious auguries will be deduced from the fact that the first ship, the "Sealdah," to be brought into the docks for the purpose of unloading, carries a cargo of rice.

In declaring the Alexandra Dock open, I fervently desire that its completion may mark the commencement of an era of still greater and more rapidly increasing prosperity than that which you have fortunately enjoyed in the past, and I most heartily wish all good fortune and success to these imposing dock works, to the Port Trust and to the beautiful city of Bombay.

ADDRESS FROM BOMBAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

[The Chamber presented His Excellency the Viceroy with the following address on the 21st March 1914 :—

21st March
1914.

May it please Your Excellency,—We, the Committee of the Bombay Chamber of Commerce, on behalf of the members of the Chamber, desire to extend to Your Excellency a very cordial welcome on this your first official visit to Bombay since assuming the duties of your high office as Viceroy and Governor-General of this country.

It affords us great satisfaction that Your Excellency has been pleased to preside at the opening ceremony of the Alexandra Dock, a scheme with which the commercial interests of Bombay are so closely associated.

During the ten years which have elapsed since the commencement of this great scheme of development, the volume of our

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seaborne trade has increased from 75 to 114 crores of rupees, while the tonnage of shipping has risen from 2½ millions to 3½ millions. These figures demonstrate the rapid progress Bombay is making; and the large expenditure to which the Port is committed in connection with the new dock and reclamation schemes is proof of the determination of the commercial community to maintain the reputation of the port as one of the best-equipped and most economical in the East.

While we regard with considerable satisfaction the provision which our docks have made for the expansion of trade, we continue every season to experience much inconvenience and loss from the inability of the railways to keep pace with the demands of trade, and we would venture to represent to Your Excellency's Government the urgency of formulating and carrying out a comprehensive and continuous railway programme.

It appears to us to be an economic error, under the conditions happily prevailing in India, to rely so much on the chances of revenue surpluses for the development of the reproductive and remunerative works which the country requires. India would only be following a universal practice in borrowing freely for capital expenditure of this description, and there is every reason to suppose that Rupee Loans for railway construction would find a ready market.

There is one railway project which this Chamber has frequently urged upon Your Excellency's Government and which has been strongly recommended by the Government of Bombay, and that is the linking up of Muttra with Aligarh in the interests of the through traffic seeking an outlet at Bombay. We would commend this project to Your Excellency's favourable consideration.

The question of agricultural progress is one which closely concerns us and our trade, and while we recognise that Your Excellency's Government has done much in recent years to improve matters, we should like to see more rapid expansion in the organisation and operations of the Agricultural Department. Though the need of an efficient organisation can hardly be greater anywhere than in India, few civilised countries are so inadequately equipped in this respect.

The members of this Chamber regarded with satisfaction the appointment of the Royal Commission on Indian Currency and Finance, and we feel confident that much good will result from the deliberations and findings of the Commission.

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Your Excellency is well aware of the financial crisis from which Bombay has recently suffered, but happily India has again shown her wonderful recuperative powers in the greatly improved conditions which now prevail. That the crisis had not more serious and more lasting effects must be attributed to the calm and determined manner in which the bankers and merchants of this city shouldered the heavy responsibility of financing the trade of Bombay throughout this trying period. The irregularities which brought about these disasters can doubtless be dealt with under common law, if brought into operation; but if further legislation is contemplated, we trust that no restriction will be placed upon the freedom which is so essential for the conduct of legitimate trading and finance.

We desire to express our thanks to Your Excellency for graciously consenting to receive our address to-day. It is our hope that Her Excellency Lady Hardinge will have a safe and pleasant voyage, and will return to India much benefited by her stay in England.

To which His Excellency made the following reply :—]

Gentlemen,—Before I proceed to business, permit me to thank you warmly for the very friendly welcome you have given me, and to assure you that it gives me particular pleasure to meet once more the members of the Bombay Chamber of Commerce. I have not forgotten the cordial welcome that you gave me when I first landed on your shores, and I am not unmindful of the friendly relations that have invariably existed between my Government and your Chamber during the whole period that I have had the honour of representing our Sovereign, the King-Emperor in India.

Turning to the subject-matter contained in your address I note that you refer to the remarkable development which has occurred in the sea-borne trade and in the tonnage of the shipping of Bombay during the last ten years. It is a source of pleasure to me to learn the extent to which the trade of your port has flourished and continues to do so, and it is indeed a subject of great satisfaction to me that I have been able to perform the ceremony of opening the magnificent docks which have been provided to enable you to cope satisfactorily with

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the demand arising from the rapid expansion of your trade and shipping.

As regards railway development, I can assure you that I fully realise how important it is that it should keep pace with the demands of trade. Appreciating this, the Government of India have had a continuous railway policy for many years past, and have increased the funds available for carrying it through, from time to time, as opportunity offered. During the last two years, in particular, this increase has been very large. In 1913 we provided £12 million at the outset, and increased that amount by an extra grant later in the year, and we have again provided £12 million for 1914-15. Also—and this is a matter of at least as much importance as the nominal amount of the programme figure—we have made arrangements of a special kind to secure, if possible, that the allotments given shall be wholly spent, and that the large lapses which used to occur in the past shall be avoided. These arrangements give promise of working efficiently; and thus, in effect, we have arranged for a much higher standard of railway expenditure than has ever yet been customary. I have no doubt that you have all studied the full examination of this question which was contained in the able and interesting speech with which Sir William Meyer presented his Budget for the coming year to my Legislative Council, and I feel sure that no one who has read the explanations there given, and considered the difficulties which had to be faced and the measures taken to cope with them, will fail to appreciate how entirely my Government are in sympathy with commercial opinion in this matter. I can of course give no promise as to the amount of the railway programme in future years, but what we have done in these two years will convince you that nothing retrograde will be allowed, if it can possibly be avoided.

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It seems to me that your remarks as to excessive reliance upon revenue surpluses indicate some possible misunderstanding of our real policy on this question. The financial arrangements for 1914-15, which have been recently announced, show that we are perfectly ready to borrow as freely as we can, having regard to the circumstances of the money market and other necessary considerations; and I hope that our enterprise in borrowing on a higher scale in the coming year will be rewarded by corresponding financial support in Bombay and Calcutta, as well as in London. The assistance derived from revenue surpluses forms a supplement only, but at present a necessary supplement, to the funds we get by borrowing. To have dispensed with this assistance would have rendered a programme of £12 million impossible in the coming year.

You would like, I know, to have a large railway programme of a fixed amount at the least, and better still, of a steadily increasing amount, and you feel perhaps that revenue surpluses are too precarious an asset on which to be dependent. But we have to face the facts, and I am not sure that there is, after all, so much to choose between revenue surpluses and loan funds in this respect. The conditions of the money market and the necessity for not doing anything which may permanently depress our credit tend to render the amount, which can be wisely borrowed in any single year, limited and fluctuating. This seems to me to be one of those matters in which, as the Finance Member said, we shall do best to avoid doctrinaire considerations. We are all agreed that the more funds we can supply for railway development the better, and our present policy is a practical policy, namely, of borrowing as freely as we can, and getting what help we legitimately can from other sources.

The particular proposal which you make is the flotation of special railway loans in India. I presume

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you have in mind loans at a higher rate of interest than Government paper, but carrying a Government guarantee or some undertaking practically tantamount to a guarantee. We have only recently considered this sort of alternative very carefully, and the best advice we can get is that such loans for general railway purposes would not attract a new class of investor, and would therefore compete with our regular issues, and would do so of course on terms unfavourable to ourselves, owing to the higher rate of interest which they would carry. Moreover, as it is hardly necessary for me to add when speaking in Bombay, the Government of India cannot ignore other borrowing interests such as those of the Port and Improvement Trusts and of the Presidency Municipalities. I do not think any of you would like to see their markets spoilt. Therefore, while I agree with you that we ought to get more direct assistance towards our railway programme from Indian capital, I consider that the best way of obtaining it is to ask for it in the ordinary way, as we are doing by our proposal to issue a rupee loan of Rs. 5 crores in the coming year.

I think I am right in saying that the requirements of Bombay have been well recognised in the funds we have been able to place at the disposal of the railways centering in Bombay. You are aware of the very large works the Great Indian Peninsula Railway is carrying out to increase its capacity, and for the year 1913-14 that Company was provided with Rs. 380 lakhs, and for the year 1914-15 a sum of Rs. 318 lakhs has been allotted.

With regard to the linking up of Muttra with Aligarh, I would recall to your recollection that you approached my predecessor on the same subject, and I regret I cannot commit myself to giving a favourable reply. Briefly, the reasons are that Bombay already draws a large amount of traffic from the area centering around Muttra, and that it would not be advisable for Government to

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agree to make a line which would disturb the existing balance of traffic between Bengal and Bombay at the expense of the former.

It is hardly surprising that the deliberations of the Royal Commission on Indian Finance and Currency should have attracted your particular attention inasmuch as two of your leading citizens, Sir James Begbie and Sir Shapurji Broacha, were members of that able Commission, while you, Sir, were among those who represented the interests of this city as witnesses before it. A full summary of the Commission's report was recently telegraphed out to India, and I am sure you will all have read it with great interest. I need hardly say that its recommendations will receive from the Government of India and the Secretary of State the full consideration which their own importance and the representative character of the Commission demand. It will obviously be necessary for us, however, before dealing with the proposals, to make a complete study not only of the full text of the report, but of the evidence tendered.

You mention another subject which is occupying the minds of most business men not only in Bombay, but in many other parts of India at the present moment—I mean the series of regrettable bank failures which occurred last autumn—and I am glad indeed to hear of what you describe as the greatly improved conditions now prevailing. I wish also to take this opportunity to express in Bombay, as I have already done at Calcutta, my appreciation of the spirit in which these troubles have been met by the larger banking and commercial interests in these two principal centres of Indian trade. I sincerely hope that we have now reached the end of these disasters, and that the time may thus be considered to have arrived for drawing therefrom lessons regarding the best means of preventing a recurrence of such a crisis in future. The Government of

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India, as you are aware, have been pressed to appoint a special Committee of officials and experts to investigate the causes of these failures. I do not say that an investigation by such means may not in time be found necessary; but it seems to me that, so long as liquidation proceedings are in progress, the initiation of such an enquiry would certainly be premature. Indeed, there is some reason for holding that all the information we require on this subject may not improbably be available without the necessity of resorting to a special enquiry. I need not remind you that the attention of the Government of India has already been directed to the existence of certain undesirable features in the development of banking in India. You have been recently considering a letter addressed by us to Local Governments some little time before the failures occurred, in which opinions were invited as to whether special legislation was necessary, and certain suggestions were put forward as to the form which such legislation, if decided upon, might assume. I do not desire in any way to anticipate the decision of the Government of India on the very large volume of official and expert opinion which is being submitted to them in connection with these proposals. I notice in the views you have expressed to your Local Government that your Chamber is in favour of some legislation being undertaken, and I need only add that my Government fully appreciate the importance of the point which you have just put before me that there should be no unnecessary legislative interference with the ordinary course of legitimate trade and finance.

During my tenure of office, commercial legislation has been constantly under consideration. In the year 1911 we passed an improved Factory Act based on the recommendations of the Factory Commission. In 1912 two Acts were passed dealing with the regulation of Life Assurance Companies and Provident Societies—legislation

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which became necessary owing to the rapid multiplication of such companies and societies, many of which were undoubtedly being conducted on most unsound lines. In 1913 we passed an Act dealing with the evils arising from the use of white phosphorus matches. Then followed a very important piece of legislation, the Indian Companies Act of 1913, in which we have aimed at bringing the Indian Company Law into conformity with the Company Law of Great Britain, while providing, so far as it has proved necessary, for the special requirements of Indian conditions. In the interests of uniformity, a uniformity which has been declared desirable in a meeting of the Associated Chambers of Commerce of the Empire, we took as our principle the adherence to English Company Law wherever it was possible; and we only departed from it when a strong case existed for special provisions to meet special features of company management in India, which are unfamiliar in Great Britain. An attempt has been made to deal with some of these special local requirements in the supplementary Companies Bill of 1914 which has just passed through my Legislative Council. Proposals for banking legislation are now under consideration, as I have already explained. You will thus gather that, during the last four years, we have not been idle in the matter of keeping our legislative provisions in harmony with the requirements of modern commercial development in this country.

We have similarly been considering very carefully, since the move of the Capital to Delhi, the position of the Department of Commerce and Industry with a view to ensuring that it should constantly retain the closest possible contact with the commercial community. To this end certain proposals were formulated and circulated for opinion some two years ago. You will remember that we proposed, subject to the approval of the Secretary of State, that the Member for Commerce and Industry should

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spend some 12 weeks in the year on tour, of which from three to four weeks should be devoted to visiting Calcutta and a similar period to visiting Bombay. The Secretary of State has formally sanctioned our proposals under this head. We also endeavoured to strengthen our Commercial Intelligence Department, which has become, in our opinion, overburdened and unduly hampered in the due discharge of its principal functions by being responsible, in addition, for the preparation and issue of our voluminous statistical publications. We proposed to revert to the system which existed before the year 1905 and to place the statistical work in charge of an expert officer who would be in close contact with the Government of India. This portion of our scheme has also received the Secretary of State's approval, and a Director of Statistics will now be appointed with effect from the 1st of April. The Commercial Intelligence Officer will thus be free to undertake more extensive touring, and will be in a better position to procure and supply information of value to Government and to the commercial community. We also had in mind the subdivision of the present office of the Director-General of Commercial Intelligence and the substitution for a single officer of two Directors, one of whom should have his headquarters at Calcutta, and one at Bombay. On this question a decision has not yet been taken. We are still discussing the matter with the Secretary of State and with the Local Governments, and especially are examining whether a still wider organisation might not provide more satisfactorily both for the fuller supply to Government of the commercial intelligence which they require, to maintain a close contact between the Department and the commercial community in all parts of India, and for the supply of commercial information to business communities such as they may from time to time desire to obtain from our Government Departments. We are

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hopeful of finding a solution which will be satisfactory to all concerned.

There is one matter affecting the commercial community closely, in which important development have recently occurred. I refer to that great branch of the administration which is so vital to all commercial operations, the Posts and Telegraphs. For many years these important services, contrary to the practice of most civilised countries, have been controlled by two separate Departments. It is over 40 years since the idea of amalgamation was first brought forward. From time to time the subject has been carefully considered, but without result. Recently we have been able to carry the matter further. A scheme for amalgamation was prepared in 1912. That scheme has now been sanctioned by the Secretary of State, and will be brought into effect from the 1st April of this year. We anticipate considerable financial economies from the amalgamation, but these will be effected gradually, for Government are most anxious that, in carrying through this reform in the administration, the individual interests of members of the existing Posts and Telegraph staff should be duly safeguarded.

In connection with the question of improving the means of communication between business houses in this country and Europe the renewal of the contract for the carriage of the mails between Europe and India is now occupying the close attention of the various authorities concerned. Tenders will shortly be invited for both an accelerated service, and a double service of mails weekly. It will be some time before the tenders are received for consideration; but when we are consulted on the proposal, the fullest consideration will be given to the claims and requirements of all important business centres in India before a decision regarding the terms of the new contract is taken.

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I note with pleasure your recognition of the advances which have been made in the expansion of the Agricultural Department of recent years. The expenditure on the Department has, in fact, risen from $7\frac{1}{4}$ lakhs in 1904-05 to nearly 49 lakhs in 1913-14, and in the Bombay Presidency alone expenditure has risen from a little over 1 lakh in the former year to over 7 lakhs in the latter, exclusive of $8\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs spent on the College buildings at Poona.

As the result of this very large increase there has been an extraordinary expansion of the operations of the Department in your Presidency, which now possesses, besides a large staff of experts and professors, a well-equipped College, three agricultural schools, 16 agricultural stations and a large staff of instructors. At the same time it must be accepted that there is still considerable room for further development. The figures that are available show that, as you have pointed out, India is still far behind most civilised countries in the adequacy of the equipment of the Agricultural Department. Our expenditure on agriculture and veterinary objects combined comes to about £2 per thousand of the population as against sums like £49 in the United States of America, £27 in France, £62 in Prussia, and even larger figures in some of the new countries. We have had reasons in the past for moving slowly. The development of the Department is practically a matter of the last eight or nine years, and scientifically trained men can only be recruited slowly. The profitableness of agricultural improvements is not perhaps so readily and keenly recognised in India as elsewhere, and the process of educating the Indian farmer must be gradual. It must be recognised that the Department has to deal with the traditions and prejudices of generations, and thus the task of the reformer is not an easy one. And yet with all this to contend with a great deal has been done. In Bombay, in particular, the

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flourishing sugar-cane industry, which, as the big canals now in course of construction in the Deccan are completed, promises to attain such large proportions, has owed its growth largely to the influence and the guidance of your Agricultural Department. A great deal has been done in the distribution of improved ploughs and other implements. The oil-engine for pumping is now a comparatively common feature of the country side. Operations for the sinking of artesian wells are being vigorously pushed on, while a steam plough, the first it is believed in India, is now working successfully in Dharwar. Organisations for the provision of improved seed for the cotton-growers of Gujarat and Khandesh are in course of formation, while the agricultural stations which have been established in most of the districts of the Presidency are demonstrating to an yearly increasing number of cultivators, the advantages of modern methods of tillage.

It is thoroughly recognised that there is much still to be done from the practical side, as well as from the educational and scientific standpoint, to develop the agriculture of the country, but looking at the question broadly it is difficult to see how with the limitations of the Indian Budget it would have been possible to spare more money during the past few years or to utilise the funds to better advantage.

I am afraid I have detained you over long, Gentlemen, but I have learnt to regard your Chamber as a body with a deservedly high reputation for solidity of judgment and sobriety of views and one to which Government can look for helpful criticism and sound advice. I was therefore anxious to make what return I can by taking you to the fullest possible extent into my confidence. I can only thank you once more for sparing some of your busy time to come and present me with your address, and

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express my warm appreciation of the attentive hearing you have given to my remarks.

ADDRESS FROM INDIAN MERCHANTS' CHAMBER AND
BUREAU, BOMBAY.

21st March 1914. | The following address was presented by this Chamber during the Viceroy's visit to Bombay :—

May it please Your Excellency,—We, the Chairman and Members of the Committee of the Indian Merchants' Chamber and Bureau, embrace the opportunity of Your Excellency's visit to our City to accord Your Excellency a hearty and respectful welcome.

2. To us it affords the greatest pleasure, in the first instance, to express our sincere feeling of satisfaction at the high esteem and regard which, since landing on our shores three years ago, Your Excellency has been able to win from all the great communities of this country as much by your sagacious statesmanship as by your deep and abiding sympathy for their greater welfare, notably in the matter of mass education and sanitation.

3. It was a rude and staggering shock which was felt by millions of His Majesty's Indian subjects, when, in the midst of the growing esteem and regard entertained for Your Excellency's broad-minded and sympathetic administration, the cruel hand of a fanatic assassin was raised against you at Delhi fifteen months ago. India was filled with the direst grief at this foul and dastardly attempt upon Your Excellency's life. Days of dread anxiety passed before the first glad tidings of your slow but steady recovery were assured. At the same time great was the admiration at the marvellous womanly courage and cool presence of mind displayed by Her Excellency Lady Hardinge during sore hours of her great trial. Unparalleled was the sympathy exhibited by all classes of the community and by all creeds and races throughout the length and breadth of the land. The people's joy knew no bounds when, restored to health, Your Excellency was able to resume the active duties of your high office, and announced to them in those simple but touching words Your Excellency's firm resolve to continue your appointed work till the expiration of the term of your Viceroyalty.

4. In common with all classes of the people we sincerely mourn the death of Lord Minto, that good and great Viceroy who had immediately preceded you in your high office, and whose liberal

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mindful reforms had endeared him to all the Indian people. In him India has indeed lost a just Viceroy of great nobility of character, unperturbed serenity of mind and far-sighted statesmanship.

5. The far-reaching and gratifying reforms of a popular character, which the combined statesmanship of Lords Morley and Minto introduced into the country in the spirit of sterling liberalism, have received at Your Excellency's hands that additional stimulus and encouragement, which are essential for their fuller development in the course of time. The large hearted boons so considerably and generously conferred on the Indian people by His Gracious Majesty the King-Emperor at Imperial Delhi on the auspicious and historical occasion of his Coronation in person, accompanied by his amiable Consort, the Queen-Empress, have largely contributed to their contentment, while knitting closer than before the happy relations between the rulers and the ruled. Those boons are an unerring evidence and earnest of the solicitude of our beloved Sovereign for the larger progress of his Indian subjects.

6. We gladly hail the transfer of the Capital to Delhi which has been acknowledged as a courageous act of Imperial Statesmanship for which Your Excellency has earned the cordial thanks of the people. The Indian Commercial Community of this Presidency in common with that of the other Provinces greatly appreciates the importance of the transfer, calculated as it is to ensure that just and reasonable hearing of their commercial wants and requirements as demanded by the larger and speedier expansion of trade and industries.

7. Your Excellency's kind care and solicitude for the progress of commerce and industry is further evidenced by the series of important legislative measures which have been enacted and which are destined to be far-reaching in their influence for good in the near future. The Indian Companies' Act has placed the law relating to Joint Stock Companies on a stricter and broader footing than before, which is calculated to safeguard the interests of the investing public in a larger degree than is the case at present. We are fully alive to the fact that legislation alone in this respect, however stringent, is not sufficient to prevent irregularities and abuses of the character lately revealed here and elsewhere; but we hope that it will have the desired effect of diminishing such in the future.

8. We deplore the recent lapses in banking which have not a little shaken credit, and, to a certain extent, contributed to the depression of trade. It is to be feared it will be some time yet

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before healthy and normal conditions are again restored. We are, however, able to note with satisfaction that Your Excellency's Government are keenly alive to the existing condition of monetary affairs and are deliberating at present on the opinions expressed by a variety of persons and public bodies who were consulted on the desirability of a new banking law, prior to the recent failures. Though certain safeguards are necessary, we may be permitted to observe that any legislation which goes to restrict healthy and normal growth of indigenous banking institutions, would in no way be conducive to economic progress in a variety of directions which the country sorely needs. But on this matter it is a source of gratification to take note of the very assuring pronouncement Your Excellency was pleased to make at Madras. Your Excellency fully recognised "the tendency which has been so pronounced in recent years for the savings of the people to be increasingly applied to sound investment and industrial enterprise." This tendency and movement, so sound in itself, we are convinced, as Your Excellency further observed, "will be maintained in spite of temporary checks." We are in perfect accord with Your Excellency's view that "if the Indian investor is taught by these events to be more careful to distinguish between sound and unsound undertakings, or if they pave the way to some better system of regulation and protection, they will not have been unfruitful of beneficent results."

9. Speaking of local trade, we are rejoiced at the interesting function Your Excellency discharged this morning. The New Docks are destined to offer greater accommodation to large sea-going vessels, the number of which, in harmony with our growing import and export trade, is annually on the increase, and will facilitate transport in the confines of the City and beyond it, by means of that supplementary system of Port Trust Railways which are now approaching completion.

10. The grievous events in South Africa and the harsh and unjust treatment of His Majesty's Indian subjects had naturally created, a few months ago, great alarm, resentment and indignation as voiced in the numerous telegrams and appeals forwarded to Your Excellency. Indians, however, are deeply grateful to Your Excellency for the earnest and sympathetic response you so promptly made to their prayers recognising their justice, and wisely identifying yourself with the feelings and sentiments of the people, Your Excellency lost no time in representing their voice to the Secretary of State, urging him to bring about a solution which might go to allay the Indian ferment. We acknowledge with heartfelt gratitude your action in this grave and unprecedented crisis. India

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hopefully looks forward to the time which shall bring about a mutual satisfactory settlement of the vexed and complicated problem and the adoption of a wise and liberal policy all throughout the Colonies. In our humble opinion, this is highly essential to bring about the needed solidarity and unity of the great British Empire of which India forms an integral and important part.

11. The happy solution arrived at by Your Excellency in the matters of the unfortunate Cawnpore and Ayodhya incidents last year, will long be remembered with feelings of thankfulness as showing how the representatives here of our Gracious Sovereign, animated by a spirit of justice and a sense of the respect due to the religious sentiments of all classes of people, can successfully intervene in such a delicate matter and bring about a pacific settlement so essential to the peaceful and orderly progress of the country.

12. Lastly, we respectfully beg to bring to the notice of Your Excellency the great inadequacy of the existing single seat to represent on the Imperial Legislative Council Indian Commerce. Considering the magnitude of the growing foreign and inland trade and the diversity of the interests involved, it is to be earnestly hoped that Your Excellency's Government will see their way to render full justice to our interests by an adequate representation at the earliest opportunity which may present itself.

13. With our best wishes for Her Excellency Lady Hardinge's safe voyage home, and her return here in perfect health, and, with our fervent prayer that by the Grace of Providence Your Excellency may be enabled to crown your Viceregal career with a still greater success and earn a name and fame as brilliant and distinguished as that of your illustrious ancestor.

To which His Excellency made the following reply :—]

Gentlemen,—I thank you very warmly indeed for the extremely cordial terms in which the Indian Merchants' Chamber and Bureau have couched their welcome to me; and I can only hope that I myself and my successors may continue to win those friendly sentiments with which your address is animated.

This is not the occasion for a speech of a political character, and I do not propose to enter into any exposition of the policy of the Government of India, but I cannot refrain from expressing my deep appreciation of

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the terms of warm approval you have used regarding the efforts I have made during the past three years to fulfil my high responsibilities with even-handed justice and with a single aim for the truest welfare of your country.

I listened with melancholy satisfaction to the tribute you have paid to the memory of my distinguished predecessor whose hand so lately guided the destinies of India. His serene courage and far-sighted sagacity enabled him to hold a steady course through somewhat troublous times, and the reforms which he introduced into the constitution of our Legislative Councils will secure him a place of distinction among the great men who have been Governors-General in the past.

I notice that you have criticised one detail of those self-same reforms, and I will only remind you that the claims of individual interests to be represented on the Imperial Council cannot be considered independently of the similar requests of other communities and the limits of membership which are imposed by statute on the Council. The Government of India have done their best to afford representation to all the most important interests in the country, and the scheme must be judged as a whole. The Indian commercial community is fortunate in that it has secured one special seat of its own, while there is nothing to prevent the selection of leading members of the business world in other vacancies; in fact, I should be glad to see them returned in fair proportion as representatives of their countrymen. But the allocation of another reserved seat can only mean the disenfranchisement of some one else, and that is a course which clearly merely shifts the ground of complaint from one to another quarter.

You will have learnt from my speech in Council the results of the Commission recently appointed by the Government of South Africa to enquire into the troubles

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which occurred there and the grievances of our Indian fellow-subjects, and I devoutly hope that the Government of the Union will lend a ready ear to such remedies as have been suggested for the mitigation of those grievances, and will undertake legislation in the immediate future to give effect to them.

I will now turn to those portions of your address which are more closely connected with matters of commercial importance. I am glad that you recognise that the recently enacted Indian Companies Act has placed the law relating to Joint Stock Companies on a more satisfactory footing and will tend to safeguard the interests of the investing public. I particularly welcome your recognition of the fact that legislation alone cannot secure the investing public against the flagrant misconduct of those responsible for the management of public companies. We cannot make all persons honest by legislation any more than by excise laws we can make all people moderate consumers of alcohol. I particularly welcome this expression of opinion from the Indian Merchants' Chamber, because I seem to detect, in many quarters, a somewhat exaggerated conception of the sphere of Government in its relations with private enterprise. In their anxiety to safeguard shareholders and the public generally, some persons apparently desire to see commercial enterprises transformed into a Department of Government. We have even been asked to place all public companies in charge of the Collectors of Districts, who would, I take it, if such a scheme were adopted, become permanent Directors of every limited liability enterprise in their districts. Such undue nursing of private effort would not, of course, be compatible with the true interests of this country, where the investing public must learn, by the hard lesson of occasional losses, to take an intelligent interest in the management of the concerns in which they are interested and to exercise the

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considerable powers that are already vested in them by the important company legislation to which you refer.

In making these remarks I in no sense desire to display any want of confidence in the capacity of the Indian business public to direct and control commercial enterprises. Far from it, I hold that in this city of Bombay the Indian merchant has shown, more than in any part of India, a marked talent for directing commercial ventures of importance on Western lines. When we hear of the regrettable bank failures to which you draw attention, we must not forget the successful *swadeshi* banks, nor the numerous manufacturing companies that are entirely in Indian hands. I hold that the past, in spite of errors and failures, is full of promise for the future, and I am confident that in Bombay, where so many fine buildings and institutions bear witness to the generous contribution of successful Indian merchants, we may look with confidence to the successes of the future to eradicate the impression conveyed by certain failures in the past.

You mention, Gentlemen, the fine new docks that it has been my pleasure to open this morning. I am glad to find Bombay has risen so splendidly to its responsibilities in the matter of providing for your trade and shipping. Without the Port Trust Railway, which it has wisely been decided to construct, your docks could not have been worked to their full capacity, and in conjunction with the great Indian Peninsula Railway Harbour Branch line, off which I understand the Port Trust Railway branches, Bombay will have a system of terminal lines far in advance of those of any other port in India. The credit for the conception of this great work is to be attributed to your Port Trust, a body on which representatives of the English and Indian commercial community work in close harmony for the good of your port. In such happy combination, I see great promise for the future progress of the commercial development

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of this country, and I feel that your Chamber will be ever ready to contribute heartily to that great cause.

I am glad to find that the Indian commercial community of your Presidency appreciate the desire of my Government to afford just and reasonable hearing to their commercial requirements, and that in this connection you welcome the transfer of the Capital to Delhi, which brings us into closer touch with the trade and commerce of Western India. I have already explained in reply to an earlier address certain proposals, which will presently come into operation, with a view to keeping the Government of India more closely in touch with the commercial communities in the great trade centres. We propose that the Member for Commerce and Industry should take regular tours, spending an appreciable time, especially, in the two great commercial cities of Bombay and Calcutta, and in order to afford more time to the Officer in charge of the Commercial Intelligence Department for touring and for his more strictly commercial functions, we propose to relieve him of the heavy burden of superintending our statistical publications and to place these under a separate officer. Further improvements in the organisation of our commercial intelligence work are also under consideration and are being discussed with Local Governments. It is our special aim to preserve a close relationship with commerce, and I am sure that in this endeavour we may confidently look for the co-operation of such bodies as your Chamber, which I have had great pleasure in meeting to-day.

My visit to your city has been somewhat clouded by the sadness of bidding farewell for a time to my wife, who has been my constant companion through these strenuous years with all that they have brought of trouble or of happiness, of toil, and sometimes as you know of danger. I thank you most heartily for the kindly language in which you have referred to her and for your

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good wishes for her journey, and I offer you once more my most cordial thanks for the very friendly address with which you have been good enough to present me.

BUDGET DEBATE, 1914-15.

24th Mar. [The Legislative Session of 1913-14 was brought to a close at
1914. Delhi on the 24th March when the annual Debate took place on the Budget.

A number of speeches were made by Honourable Members, a good deal of interest centering in the question of expenditure on New Delhi.

His Excellency in closing the Session spoke as follows :—]

My first and very pleasant duty in addressing you to-day, at the close of a Session during the course of which questions of finance have been much under discussion, is to re-echo the views of my Council and to congratulate Sir William Meyer on the presentation of his first Budget to the Imperial Legislative Council. It was a great satisfaction to me last year, as Head of the Government, to welcome a Colleague of Sir William Meyer's known ability and wide experience both in the special field of finance and in Indian administration generally.

We are indebted to him for an unusually informing account of present financial policy. The line he has adopted, in thus taking both yourselves and the public generally into his confidence, is one which no doubt invites criticism, because it makes criticism easy, but that is a result which neither he nor my Government can deprecate. The more intelligently our policy is scrutinised, the more confident we are of general support.

It is true that he has had to budget under conditions which are not entirely favourable. Unlike his predecessor, he has had but a small surplus to dispose of, and practically no doles to distribute. It is always pleasant

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to give doles to needy claimants, and perhaps it is even more pleasant to receive them, but large unanticipated surpluses are not an entirely healthy element in our finance, while the distribution of doles is apt to be demoralising and to provoke disappointment when in lean years further doles are not forthcoming.

On the other hand, the sums available due to the natural growth of the Imperial share of the revenues are an entirely healthy development in our financial system, and I regard the needs of education and sanitation as amongst the first claims upon them.

That is all that I intend to say on the subject of the budget, but I am also glad to be able to announce that we have just secured a reduction in the telegraph rates between India and Europe of 4 annas a word on the ordinary rates and 2 annas a word on the deferred rates. I may say that it was not an altogether easy matter to obtain this concession which has been the subject of negotiation for some time past. Its importance, I am sure, will be greatly appreciated by the commercial community, to whom the cheapening of telegraphic communication with Europe is a matter of ever-increasing moment. These reductions will probably take effect from the 1st May.

It is a matter of deep concern to me that India should again be visited by famine. The scarcity which now prevails in parts of the United Provinces, Rajputana and Central India is, I am sorry to say, fairly widespread, and in places it is of a severe type. We had hoped and long continued to hope that the winter rains might come in time to ensure a fair spring crop in the affected areas, but we have been disappointed, and the scarcity has only been slightly mitigated by the little rain which has fallen. At the same time it is not on a scale commensurate with that of the serious visitation which afflicted the United Provinces in 1907-08, and there are

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certain features of the present distress which are significantly hopeful, both as regards our immediate troubles and in their bearing on the tendencies of future famines in India. The people started with a series of good seasons behind them, and not inconsiderable stocks. There is fortunately a promise of an excellent harvest in a great part of the Punjab; prices in the United Provinces have not risen so rapidly as might otherwise have been the case; and the whole situation has developed somewhat more slowly than was originally expected. Those who have followed the course of the recent scarcities in the Bombay Presidency will have been struck with the change which appears to be gradually coming over the character of our Indian famines, and which is reflected in the administrative measures now taken to meet them. A prescience born of previous experience works almost as a matter of routine to meet the gradual approach of scarcity. Revenue is suspended with a liberality unknown ten years ago. Agricultural advances are distributed on an enormous scale. Ordinary public works, instead of being closed for want of funds, are extended as far as possible. For the maintenance of working cattle, whose services are of such economic importance, every effort is made to provide fodder at cheap rates, the cost of transit being reduced at great expense to the State. Everything, in short, is done to stave off, as far as this can be safely done, the day on which relief works must be opened. Nothing is perhaps more striking than the almost secondary place into which the system of relief works, formerly a cardinal feature of our relief programme, has tended to fall in our recent famines. Whether this will be characteristic of future famines, it is yet impossible to say, but our recent experience has certainly emphasised this tendency. The progressive improvement in recent years in the means of communication in India, and a marked increase in the alertness and confidence of the labouring classes, have

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enabled a large proportion of the able-bodied poor to go further afield in search of work. The large works and the big industrial enterprises of modern days have provided a considerable degree of automatic relief, and while we have, as before, to provide gratuitous relief for a large number of persons who are precluded from the possibility of obtaining work, we are finding it less and less necessary to centre all our energies on the artificial provision of labour for the able-bodied. Indeed, at the present moment, we are assisting a larger number of persons in the famine areas in the United Provinces by gratuitous relief than by the system of relief works. It is impossible to foresee what the future may have in store for us, especially if we were to be unfortunately visited by a severe and extensive failure of the rains, but in the tendencies which I have described there are some who are able to see—and I think not without justification—the beginning of an economic movement which, if unimpeded by other influences, will bring about a momentous change in the scope and effects of monsoon failures in this country.

It is my earnest hope that present expectations as to the limited scope and duration of the scarcity will be confirmed by a good autumn monsoon, and that the distressed areas will enjoy a speedy return to agricultural prosperity.

Since I last addressed you on the subject of foreign affairs in Simla, on the 17th September last, it has been pleasant to know that affairs in Eastern Europe are gradually settling down, and that the shadow of war which has lately for so long enveloped the Balkan Peninsula, is now gradually being dispelled by the sunlight of peace. We can only hope that time will heal the wounds that have been inflicted, and softer the animosities that have been created, and that the Empire of Turkey, our neighbour in the Red Sea and Persian

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Gulf, will emerge from her recent trials with renewed vitality and determination to consolidate her position by an enlightened policy of peaceful progress and material development. In the pursuit of such a policy we in India have everything to gain, and we can warmly wish her God-speed.

I told you in September last of the disinterested attitude of His Majesty's Government towards Persia, and that we had recently lent the Persian Government a considerable sum of money for the creation of a force of gendarmerie under Swedish officers, with a view to the suppression of anarchy in Southern Persia and the restoration of order and security on the trade routes, where British and Indian trade had suffered serious loss during the past few years. I am glad to say that our hopes have so far not been disappointed. The regiment of gendarmerie, which was raised at Shiraz, has been employed during the winter in patrolling the roads and has dealt successfully with the robber bands who infested it. It is true that quite recently these gendarmerie have been confronted once more with a troublesome situation at Kazerun, but I am glad to learn that on the arrival of reinforcements the tribal rising dispersed, and that order has once more been restored. Evidence of the successful activity of the gendarmerie is shown in the improved returns of British and Indian trade in Southern Persia. Another force of gendarmerie has been dealing with the situation on the trade route between Bunder Abbas and Kerman, and, although they have had some serious engagements with the Perso-Baluchi tribes in that neighbourhood, there is every reason for confidence in their ability to restore order in the immediate future. The action in South Persia of the Swedish officers and the Persian gendarmerie appears to have been eminently successful, and to be worthy of unstinted praise. I may point out that the only alternative would have been the

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despatch of a British expedition to Southern Persia for the restoration of order in those provinces—a policy to which, with the entanglements and expenditure it would entail, the Government of India have always been firmly opposed, and I would only ask those, who have been somewhat lavish in their criticisms of the attitude of the British Government in Persia, now to recognise what we in India owe to Sir Edward Grey for his policy of disinterested support, and abstention from interference in the internal affairs of Persia.

A further development that has taken place in connection with the affairs of the Persian Gulf is the conclusion of an agreement with the French Government, by which they now recognise the new Arms Traffic Regulations, drawn up by the late Sultan of Muscat at our instance, and by which they abandon the privileges and immunities secured to them by ancient treaties. We believe that gun-running from Maskat has now been stopped, and that our agreement with France will effectually prevent its revival. Should this prove to be the case, we may hope not only to avoid in future the necessity for those occasional small military expeditions, which for many years have been a drain on Indian revenues, but also in the very near future to be able to discontinue the expensive naval blockade operations on the Mekran coast.

Turning to Afghanistan, the relations of the Government of India with His Majesty the Amir have continued to be most friendly and cordial. Indeed we have had only one complaint to present to the Afghan Government—and that of a serious order—*viz.*, in regard to the depredations on British territory by gangs resident in Afghan limits. The recent outrages on the Jehangira and Khairabad Railway stations in the Peshawar District were, we have reason to believe, the work of a gang, whose base is in the Afghan Shinwari country. I have

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addressed His Majesty the Amir on the subject, demanding the punishment of the offenders, and I have every reason to hope that the Afghan Government can, and will, co-operate in this matter. An even more flagrant instance of the evil in question is to be found on the Kohat-Bannu border, which for some years past has been constantly harried by gangs from the neighbouring Afghan district of Khost. These gangs, consisting of outlaws from British territory assisted by bad characters from Khost, have with impunity murdered and robbed in British territory, and carried off British subjects to their asylum in Afghanistan and there held them to ransom. The strongest representations have from time to time been made to the Amir on the subject, and he assured me last December that he had issued orders to his local officers to deal vigorously with the matter. In spite of this, however, since then two serious outrages have been committed by Khost gangs. In one of them a Hindu and his wife were carried off from the Tochi, and though the Afghan local officials could, so it is reported, have saved them—indeed had pledged themselves to do so—the unfortunate Hindu was brutally murdered and decapitated by the outlaws and his head sent to our post at Miran Shah, with a demand for an enormous ransom for the woman. To deal with this intolerable situation, we decided that mere representations, unbacked by action, were valueless. I therefore authorized as a reprisal the arrest and detention of all Khostwals found in British territory, pending settlement of this matter, and I sent a letter to the Amir, informing him of our action, and calling upon him to depute an officer with the necessary force to deal promptly and effectively with the situation in co-operation, if need be, with a British officer supported by the necessary force.

I am happy to be able to announce that I received news yesterday that this action has already borne fruit,

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and that His Majesty the Amir immediately on the receipt of my letter issued stringent orders for the surrender of the captive Hindus in Khost and the arrest of the perpetrators of the outrages in question. Already three captive Hindus have been brought in to the Political Agent in the Tochi under escort, and it is reported that the greater number of the outlaws have been arrested and despatched to Kahul for trial.

The North-West Frontier has otherwise been quiet, with the exception of an outrage by the Utman Khel in the north of Peshawar District; and two serious raids by the Bunerwals into British territory, in which eight British subjects were killed and considerable property taken. As regards the Utman Khel, a blockade against them has been established, which it is hoped will lead to a speedy settlement of this case. As regards the Bunerwals, I ordered the movement of a column into their country on the 23rd February last to punish some of the villages mainly at fault. This operation, in spite of the most trying conditions of weather and roads, was carried out most successfully. The troops met with half-hearted opposition, and returned without loss, after inflicting exemplary punishment on the offending villages. There are reasons to believe that the effect of this action has been most salutary on the frontier, and I trust it will be clear from what I have said that the Government of India are dealing vigorously with the question of insecurity on the North-West Frontier, and intend whatever it may cost, to restore reasonable peace and order on that border.

The future status of Tibet is still the subject of negotiations between accredited representatives of Great Britain and accredited representatives of China and Tibet.

During the past year we have added greatly to our knowledge of the little known countries lying on the North-East Frontier along the Assam border. Surveys

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have been carried out; some roads have been made; and a large portion of the unexplored highlands in that direction have been visited, so that we are now in a position to determine our natural boundaries on this side.

On the north-east border of Burma it has been decided to extend our administrative control over a part of our tribal area, and the new district of Putao has been peacefully established. On this side, too, the outlying portions of the Indian Empire have been explored, and the knowledge so gained will enable us, when the time comes, to settle a satisfactory international frontier.

I am grateful for the flattering words that have been used by a great many members to-day relating to the action of myself and my Government in connection with the position of Indians in South Africa and I think it will be a source of satisfaction to us all if I mention the fact that a Reuter's telegram from Cape Town has come in to-day stating that General Smuts has announced in the Union House of Assembly that Government would introduce legislation next session based on the report of the recent Commission.

I would now like to turn to a subject nearer home and to give you all the information in my power respecting the project estimate for the construction of the Imperial City of Delhi. This project estimate, which is really a monumental work, reflecting the greatest credit upon the Delhi Committee, of which Mr. Hailey is the Chairman, and upon the Chief Engineer, Mr. Keeling, and the staff of Engineers and others working under him, was received by the Government of India about the New Year. I should like to take this opportunity of expressing my warm appreciation of the untiring industry and devotion to duty of the officers on the staff of the Committee, who for weeks together during last hot weather worked, as I know, every day till 11 o'clock at night in order to press forward the completion of this heavy task.

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This estimate has been most carefully and thoroughly scrutinised by Mr. Russell and the staff of the Public Works Department, and they have brought to bear on it their vast and expert knowledge and have made some very useful and practical modifications. Their report reached me on the 4th March and has now undergone a close examination before acceptance by the Government of India and transmission to the Secretary of State. The above facts will explain to you why Sir Robert Carlyle in reply to a question put to him in February was unable to give any figures of the estimate. It is even irregular that I should do so now before the estimate reaches the Secretary of State, but as I am anxious to take the Members of my Council as much as possible into my confidence, I have obtained special permission from Lord Crewe to do so on this occasion. I wish, however, to make quite clear that the publication of the figures of the estimate does not in any way commit the Secretary of State to their acceptance.

Hon'ble Members may possibly remember the tenour of the despatch addressed by the Government of India to the Secretary of State on the 25th August 1911, in which the administrative changes announced by the King-Emperor at the Durbar were proposed. This despatch may truly be said to have achieved a certain measure of notoriety, if that can be gauged by the lively discussions that have taken place over its contents. In the 22nd paragraph, in which the cost of the proposed new Capital is discussed, the following words are used :—

“ We will now give a rough indication of the cost of the scheme. No attempt at accuracy is possible, because we have purposely avoided making enquiries as they would be likely to result in the premature disclosure of our proposals. The cost of the transfer to Delhi would be considerable. We cannot conceive, however, that a larger sum than four million sterling would be necessary,

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and within that figure probably could be found the three years' interest on capital which would have to be paid till the necessary works and buildings were completed."

The rest of the paragraph deals with various assets which could be utilised to counterbalance this expenditure.

Whether the Government of India were wise in mentioning a figure in however guarded a manner is, I frankly admit, open to serious doubt, and it was only after consultation amongst ourselves and with the concurrence of our former Colleague of the Finance Department, whose caution is well known to you all, that the figure of four million sterling was inserted in the despatch. In any case the figure has since been the subject of much controversy in the press and elsewhere, and various predictions of the cost of the new city have been made.

Now that the Government of India have been in a position to obtain expert information and to prepare thorough and comprehensive estimates for the creation of a capital which shall be built without extravagance and which shall yet be worthy of this great Empire, it is clear to us that the original estimate of four million sterling must be exceeded, but not to the extent of many of those forecasts which have been made by our critics, as Hon'ble Members will see when I give them presently the figures of the project estimate in its latest form. I might argue that this excess is due to the abandonment owing to sanitary reasons of the Durbar site and the cost of the consequent preparation of the new site, and I might put forward other reasons, but I have no desire to do anything of the kind, but simply to say frankly on behalf of myself and those who are still Members of my Council that, owing to the special circumstances in which we were placed, we made an underestimate in mentioning the figure of four million sterling, and how great or

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small a mistake we made, you, Hon'ble Members of Council, will shortly be able to judge.

I will now endeavour to give as succinctly as possible the figures of the estimate as amended by the Public Works Department. I may mention that as a result of their careful scrutiny the charges under certain headings have been reduced, while others have been increased, but the net result has been a material reduction of the total estimate as sent up by the Delhi Committee.

The figures are as follows under their various headings.—

	Rs.
A. Salaries and allowances	70,18,700
B.—Travelling allowances of officers and establishment	6,30,000
C.—Supplies, services and contingencies	3,78,600
D.—Works expenditure—	
(1) Buildings	3,59,87,200
(2) Communications	29,91,800
(3) Parks and public improvements	27,34,500
(4) Electric light and power	43,40,700
(5) Irrigation	27,49,000
(6) Water-supply, sewerage, drainage, etc.	73,77,900
(7) Purchase of tools and plant	35,50,600
(8) Survey camps and general preliminary expenditure	42,82,100
(9) Maintenance during construction	20,09,000
E.—Acquisition of land taken up	36,48,200
F.—Other miscellaneous expenditure	6,000
Deduct anticipated recovery from tools and plant	10,00,000

These figures, when added up, make an aggregate total of Rs. 7,67,04,300 or £5,113,620. But as we are anxious to face our liabilities for starting the new city to the fullest extent possible, we consider it necessary to make a special provision for contingencies and unforeseen expenditure in excess of the usual provision that has been made of 5 per cent. on the works outlay, by adding a sum of one and a half crores or £1,000,000. We have

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accordingly a very large reserve to meet future possibilities which we are not able to foresee at present. I should add that the expenditure of this additional crore and a half on unforeseen contingencies will be strictly controlled by the Government of India, and no part of it spent unless absolutely necessary.

Hon'ble Members may remember that recently a statement was made in Parliament by the Under Secretary of State for India that the estimated cost of new buildings in Delhi, then under the consideration of the Government of India, amounted to £2,800,000, or 420 lakhs, while the figure for buildings that I have just given you is 360 lakhs. The discrepancy that arises between these two figures is due chiefly to the excision of the cost of the Survey of India Office, and residential accommodation for the staff, reduction in the provision for offices for the local administration, etc. It has been decided by the Government of India that the presence in the Capital of the Surveyor-General's Office is not administratively expedient.

It may be of interest to Hon'ble Members to know that under the heading of buildings, of which the total is Rs. 3,59,87,200, a sum of half a million sterling, or 75 lakhs, has been allotted for the construction of Government House and the Council Chamber and necessary appurtenances with gardens, stables, offices of the Private and Military Secretaries to the Viceroy, bungalows for the staff and accommodation for military guards, while a further sum of three quarters of a million sterling, or Rs. 1,12,50,000, has been set aside for the Secretariat buildings of the Government of India. The remaining Rs. 1,72,37,200 is the estimated cost of Local Administration Offices, Chief Commissioner's Office, Imperial Record Office, residences for officers of Government and for clerks, menials' quarters, electric installation in officers' and clerks' quarters, medical buildings, police accom-

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modation, fire-brigade station, markets and slaughter-house, and accommodation for the Viceroy's Bodyguard and for troops in the Capital.

There are other headings of expenditure such as irrigation which require more detailed elaboration, and on which it is possible that certain savings may be effected, but in all such cases an outside figure has been taken which we may reasonably hope will not be exceeded.

On the other hand, the project estimate contains certain items such as land, residences, water-supply, electric power, irrigation, on which recoveries in the form of rent or taxes will, in addition to meeting current expenditure, partially at any rate, cover the interest on capital outlay, while there are other items on which some return on account of the sale of leases, general taxes, and indirect receipts may be expected, for I need not explain that Government officials, for whom accommodation is provided, will pay rent, and that all residents in the new city will have to pay charges for water-supply and other amenities. The project estimate of the Delhi Committee reckoned expenditure of this character at two crores or one and a third million pounds, but we are of opinion that a forecast put forward at this stage might merely prove misleading and furnish materials for criticism. Therefore, although a certain portion of the expenditure will undoubtedly be recouped, we prefer not to specify the items at this stage.

I have now put before you, as briefly as it has been possible on an occasion like the present, the principal details of the project estimate for the construction of the capital city of Delhi, and I think that you may safely rely on my vigilance and on that of the Hon'ble Finance Member and of the Chief Commissioner of Delhi, whose experience in the Finance Department stands him in such good stead, to see that no extravagance or waste of public funds is permitted. I may add that for a long

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time past I have received a monthly account of expenditure upon the works now in progress in order to secure the fullest financial supervision and control.

There is just one other point that I would wish to explain so as to avoid all misunderstanding, *viz.*, the absence of any estimate for cantonment or railway expenditure in the project estimate. Sir Guy Fleetwood Wilson in his financial statement last year stated that the cost of cantonments could only be shown in the military estimates, and any diversion of a railway line that might be found necessary must be charged to railways. As a matter of fact, it had been already decided by the Government before the question of making Delhi the capital had arisen to materially increase the garrison of Delhi owing to its strategical importance as the greatest railway centre of India, and to move the Indian infantry regiment from its insanitary lines at Daryaganj, while the long condemned lines of the Indian cavalry regiment should have been rebuilt at least three years ago. Very considerable expenditure would therefore in any case have been incurred on increasing and bringing up to date the military accommodation at Delhi. Consequently, a new cantonment would have had to be built in any case. As regards railway expenditure there is little doubt that if the city of Delhi expands in a southerly direction, as seems probable from the demands made for land in that direction, a diversion of the Agra Chord may become inevitable, and improved railway facilities for the inhabitants of the new city will become increasingly necessary. All that is being done at present is to acquire the necessary land so as to meet the requirements of the future when they arise, and the only recommendation that has been made to the Secretary of State for railway facilities for the new city is the construction of a railway station with sidings on the Agra Chord at the estimated cost of 2½ lakhs.

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Form the statement that I have made, which, I may point out, could not possibly have been made at an earlier date, you will recognise that we are anxious to give the Members of my Council the very fullest information.

In giving you these figures it should be clearly understood that the scheme put forward is for the adequate establishment of the Government of India at Delhi. The estimate has been framed to provide for all that can be foreseen as likely to be required to enable the Government of India to effectively occupy their new Head-Quarters. In regard to such public services as water-supply, sanitation, and the general laying-out and equipment of the new city with roads, public parks, etc., we have based our requirements upon a careful forecast of probable population and made all reasonable provision for future expansion. Although we have considered it desirable to make provision in the estimate for all the residential accommodation that we consider necessary, it is anticipated that private capital will do its share in the development of the new city and erect a proportion of the residences which will be required for the accommodation of officers and clerks in some form or other, in which case we may expect to effect some reduction of expenditure under this head. It does not include public buildings such as museums, institutes, hospitals, other than the civil hospital, etc., which will undoubtedly spring up in the future and cluster round the seat of Government. All growing cities, even the oldest, develop every year with new buildings and new institutions, and the task of the Government of India is, and has been, to see that there is no waste, and, while not expending more than we can spare, to be careful that we do not unduly restrict our plans or schemes merely in order to balance current expenditure in a manner to compromise their future or to prevent our successors from enlarging or beautifying them in the future if they possess the means or the taste

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to do so. Much no doubt will be done by private initiative, and it is very encouraging to find new educational establishments ready to spring up in the Capital of India, amongst them being a new St. Stephen's College, a Medical College for women, the Begum of Bhopal's Girl School, a Post-graduate College for the sons and families of Ruling Chiefs, and a College for Indian Medicine. Sites for all of these have been requested and assigned, and it is not too much to hope that Delhi may, in addition to its other features, become an important educational centre. The educational Conference held in Delhi last year and repeated only three weeks ago when no less than 24 Ruling Chiefs were present as well as representatives of other Native States is of happy augury and an indication of the great advantage of the accessibility of the new Capital.

Although the guarded estimate of four million sterling mentioned in the Government of India despatch of August 25th, 1911, will be exceeded, I am confident that my Council and India as a whole will not regard the total figure now estimated as excessive and the speeches that I have heard in Council to-day add further confirmation to that confidence. India is worthy of a capital, and the capital must be worthy of her. The provision of funds will be very carefully considered so as to cause no embarrassment to the development of the country and will be spread over at least eight years from its inception in 1912.

You will also understand that the estimate now communicated to you does not purport to provide for the present and future needs of old Delhi in respect of sanitary reform and urban improvement generally. The Government of India have settled at Delhi and made themselves responsible for its administration by taking over the area in which it lies, an area which would otherwise have received special attention from the Punjab Government

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in connection with our general grants for education and sanitation, as also in respect of urgent public works. Sanitary advance is one of the main features of our general policy, and we cannot allow the requirements of the old city to be prejudiced by the special demands for the new; on the contrary, we shall expect a considerable advance to be made in the near future, partly from local resources, and largely, it may be, from special Government grants, if funds for this purpose are available. This question arises at once in framing our schemes for the water-supply and sanitary equipment of the new Capital, and it is one which we cannot rightly set aside. Such outlay, however, is distinguishable, and must be considered apart, from the cost of building and equipping the new city, and was so excluded in the original rough estimate of the latter made by the Government of India in 1911.

I may remind Hon'ble Members that in a speech delivered by the King-Emperor in Delhi on the 15th December 1911, on which occasion all the Members of my Council as then constituted were present, His Majesty used the following words:—

“ I trust that the planning and designing of the public buildings to be erected will be considered with the greatest deliberation and care, so that the new creation may prove in every way worthy of this ancient and beautiful city.

“ May God's blessing rest upon the work which is so happily inaugurated to-day.”

The commands of the King-Emperor have been faithfully obeyed by the Government of India who will continue to do all in their power to carry out fully the wishes of His Majesty, a task in which we know that we have the support and confidence of the King-Emperor's loyal subjects in India. It will not, I think, be regarded as an indiscretion if I say that I know from the highest

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source the immense interest that the King-Emperor takes in the progress of the creation of the new Capital, and His Majesty's earnest desire that it shall be a worthy monument with which his name will always be identified.

I will now say a few words about ourselves. During the past year and a half since the present Members have entered upon their office, the Legislative Council has dealt with a number of important measures, 20 of which have become law. The most noteworthy perhaps of these is the Indian Companies Act, which has replaced the previous Act of 1882. In this lengthy measure, which is based to a large extent on modern English Law, we have a Code which, as recently amended in this Council, will place this important branch of commercial law upon a satisfactory footing in this country. We have also passed two Acts, one relating to the office of the Administrator-General, and one to that of the Official Trustee, which, though of less general interest, are likely to be of considerable practical utility. During the current Session we have passed an Act making the necessary modifications in the English Copyright Act in its application to India, and in the Decentralisation Act, recently under the consideration of this Council, a law has been enacted which will be of great benefit in expediting and facilitating the work of Government.

We have also still under consideration an important Bill for the protection of minor girls living in undesirable surroundings. Although we are all actuated by one desire in respect of these minors, I observe that there have been divergent views as to the best method of securing protection for them. I hope and believe, however, that in the result we shall obtain a law which will be the means of rescuing numbers of children from lives of shame; and if, for various reasons, we are not at first as successful as the Government of the United Kingdom has been in dealing with this difficult question,

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we should not be discouraged but should continue our efforts, moving firmly but cautiously, to achieve the desired object. If indeed we are able by any legislation to save from contamination but a fraction of the number of children who have been rescued in England under the provisions of the Children's Act of 1908, we shall not have laboured in vain.

The activities of this Council have not, however, been confined to legislation. A number of resolutions on matters of public interest have been discussed and carefully considered, and the Government of India have received much assistance from the temperate and thorough manner in which the subjects under discussion have been debated, and even in those cases in which Government have not been able to accept the resolutions proposed, the debates have often been of great use in that they have placed Government in possession of the views of non-official Members, and have promoted a careful consideration and examination of the question under discussion from new points of view. I may refer to Mr. Gokhale's resolution on primary education, and that of Sir G. M. Chitnavis on the merits of a system of preferential tariffs as particularly interesting and instructive. This year the discussion on jail administration, arising out of a resolution proposed by Mr. Rayanagar in which the whole question had been most carefully prepared by the Hon'ble Member, has resulted in a decision to appoint a Committee to enquire into the whole system of our prisons. It is my belief that an enquiry of this nature cannot fail to have beneficial results of a far-reaching character.

I have now finished, and I must thank Hon'ble Members for their patience and forbearance during a somewhat lengthy statement on my part. I wish you all a happy return to your homes, and I now declare this Session closed.

ADDRESS FROM MAHOMEDAN DEPUTATION.

25th March 1914. [A large and influential Mahomedan Deputation waited on His Excellency the Viceroy at Viceregal Lodge, Delhi, on the 25th March. The address which was read by the Raja of Mahmudabad was as follows :—

May it please Your Excellency,—We, the representatives of the Muslim Community, reflecting various shades of Muslim opinion in India, humbly beg to approach Your Excellency on behalf of our co-religionists and ourselves with a view to lay before Your Excellency certain matters of the highest moment relating to our community. For this opportunity so graciously afforded to us by Your Excellency we cannot but be deeply grateful. The privilege which enable the Indian subjects of His Majesty the King-Emperor to wait in deputation upon his representative on occasions of importance is highly prized and is, we venture to think, of inestimable value in the special circumstances of the Government of India. As Your Excellency is aware, the political activity of our community in recent years took its initial impulse from the great deputation that waited in 1906 at Simla upon Your Excellency's predecessor, Lord Minto, whose recent sad death we along with the rest of the people of India so deeply mourn. The extended opportunities for participating in public affairs which the liberal policy of the Government was then creating for the people of this country had brought home to the Mussalmans the imperative necessity of organising themselves for effective and fruitful co-operation with Government and with other communities. Responding to the call of such a generous policy on the part of Government the Mussalmans succeeded in a great measure in drawing together and organising their social and political forces in an incredibly short space of time, and as a prominent instance we may quote the establishment of the All-India Muslim League which has ever since continued to be the true representative organisation of Indian Mussalmans. The latent vitality of our community began to manifest itself soon after and marked the new era of an awakened consciousness. Along with an earnest desire to take their full share in the responsibilities of civic life the Mussulmans of India realised, even more vividly than ever, that their future progress depended chiefly upon the energy and vigour with which they undertook the task of carrying out the education policy formulated by their greatest leader Sir Syed Ahmed Khan more than three decades ago.

Your Excellency, we may with pardonable pride here refer to the unprecedented promptitude with which the community met

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and overcame the financial difficulties that stood in the way of the grant of a charter for the establishment of a university of our own. In this connection it will not be perhaps out of place to mention that the extremely arduous and constructive work of elaborating a constitution for the Muslim University was taken up by the Community with earnestness and zeal and the result leads us to hope that when required willing and competent workers will always be readily forthcoming. That long cherished desire, however, for the establishment of the Muslim University still remains unfulfilled. Before we could secure the result of our labours in this connection events of unparalleled magnitude and absorbing interest to Mussalmans followed one another in a rapid and bewildering succession. Your Excellency, it could not have been expected that they would fail to make a deep and painful impression upon the Mussalmans of this country. It must be apparent to all observers that the combination of such unfortunate events as then occurred was absolutely unprecedented and the Mussalmans of India were face to face with a wholly abnormal situation. Your Excellency whose great sympathy was with us throughout our protracted sufferings is well aware of the intensity and poignance of our feelings in that dark hour. But no one can point to a single incident suggesting, however remotely, that the Mussalmans of India had lost their sanity of judgment and self-restraint during a period of unusual gravity, or that they had departed even by a hair's breadth from the tradition of staunch and unwavering loyalty to the British Throne and to His Majesty's Government established by law in India. Despite these undeniable facts, we have noticed with deep pain and resentment a series of deplorable attempts that have recently been made in certain quarters to vilify our community, misrepresent our attitude towards Government, and cast unmerited aspersions on the character and motives of whole classes of His Majesty's Muslim subjects with a view to discredit them in the eyes of Government and their British fellow-subjects. It has been openly declared that leaders of the Muslim Community inflame religious passions, promote racial antagonism, and lose no opportunity of abusing British rule and vilifying the Christian religion and that a new party already begins to dream of expelling the British from India. It has also been stated that a sinister feature of this new Muslim movement is that Aligarh graduates are in the van and are openly preaching hostility to British rule and that attempts are being made to tamper with the loyalty of Muslim troops. Your Excellency, after having stood the repeated test of actual experience in

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times of great public excitement we never expected such cruel attacks at a time when we were under the shadow of a great calamity and needed all the sympathy and good-will to which we were entitled. Your Excellency will, we trust, pardon us for any warmth of language into which we may be betrayed in repudiating such wicked libels on the fair name of 70,000,000 of His Majesty's loyal Muslim subjects in India. We, on behalf of our community and ourselves, unhesitatingly characterise these allegations as gross and baseless calumnies opposed in the highest degree to the best interests of the Empire. In ordinary circumstances irresponsible attacks on communities, as on individuals, may be treated with silence or contempt, but those who have taken upon themselves the task of maligning our community are both persistent and resourceful and their sinister efforts have been assisted by the wide publicity given to their allegations in England as well as in this country. We, therefore, apprehended that unless some opportunity such as this was afforded to us it was not possible for a community circumstanced as ours to give such allegations an effectual, authoritative and adequate contradiction.

Your Excellency, our desire is not to prefer requests or to give expression to grievances of a character such as in ordinary practice form the subject-matter of deputations. But there is nothing that we prize more highly than the recognition of our loyalty and it is with reference to this that we have craved Your Excellency's leave to approach you. We avail ourselves of this opportunity to declare with all the emphasis that we can command that Indian Mussalman cherish this tradition no less dearly to day than at any time previously in their history. Your Excellency will, we trust, accept our assurance that we desire nothing better than there should prevail absolute confidence between the people and the Government and the friendliest feelings between the various communities of India, but it has pained us greatly that sinister motives should be ascribed in some quarters to the efforts that are being made to make the relations between the two great sister communities of India more harmonious and friendly. Your Excellency has endeared yourself to the whole of India by your large hearted sympathy with the people of this country, your generous appreciation of their aspirations and the high statesmanship which has characterised your rule. Grateful as we are for the benefits that have resulted from your liberal and progressive administration in which we have participated with the rest of India, we have special reason to offer our respectful gratitude to Your Excellency for the unflinching

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consideration that you have shown for the feelings and sentiments of our community and for the policy of Your Excellency's Government with regard to their educational requirements of which we hope to see an early fruition. It is, therefore, a matter of special pleasure to us to approach Your Excellency with this our humble address conveying to Your Excellency our heartfelt assurances of the continued and unimpeachable loyalty of the community we represent and we trust Your Excellency will be pleased to communicate the assurances to His Majesty the King-Emperor.

His Excellency made the following reply :—]

Gentlemen,—It is a source of much pleasure to me to have this opportunity of receiving a deputation of the Mahomedan community of such a representative character as that which I have the pleasure of seeing here before me to-day.

You have referred, in the address which I am very happy to receive from you, to the reinvigorated vitality of your own community during the past few years, and it is a fact to which I am able to bear testimony and at the same time to welcome. There is no doubt that during the past 40 years a great change has swept over Islam in India, but zeal for the Moslem faith and for the uplifting of the community, and the loyalty of the Moslems to the Government of this country where they live and find freedom of worship, have gone hand in hand, and have created a high ideal from which the community has never wavered. This indeed was the policy advocated by the late Sir Syed Ahmed, the distinguished reformer and leader of the Indian Mahomedan community, and I can only state my firm conviction that in pursuing that policy the true salvation of the Mahomedans of India is to be found. It is a policy worthy of a community of political and social importance such as yours. There is no doubt that Mahomedan sentiment has been greatly stirred by recent events outside Ind'ia, and that for a time a restless spirit prevailed which might have been interpreted by those who regarded merely the troubled surface

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of the water as a dangerous portent, but which those who could see below the surface were well aware betrayed no real antagonism between Government and your community. It is true that feelings have been sore, and that here and there this has found expression in bitter or heated words, which it would have been better to have left unsaid. And it is true, unfortunately, that writers in the English and foreign press have been misled by such expressions and, owing to a merely superficial comprehension of the Mahomedan train of thought, have misrepresented the attitude of your community and attributed to them actions and thoughts which those who know you well can only regard as a deep misunderstanding. I can well sympathise with your feelings of resentment at aspersions that have been cast upon you and your people as a whole, but I can only assure you that I and my Government have never doubted the unswerving loyalty which we know quite well to be one of the noblest and most sacred traditions of your community. I need hardly repeat to you here what I said in the Legislative Council at Simla on the 17th September last as to the realisation by the British Government of the absolute necessity for the maintenance of the *status quo* as regards the Holy Places in Arabia, but I would point out that this is an important and powerful link between your community and the Government of our King-Emperor, for it is only in view of the religious interests of the Mahomedans of India and the value that the Government attach to religious freedom and Mahomedan control of the Holy Places that such a responsibility could rest upon Great Britain. Now that peace has been happily restored in Europe and Asia, I look forward with hope and confidence to a period of peaceful development of the Mahomedan community by means of self-improvement and education, and to a policy of solidarity and co-operation with Government of all loyal, moderate and

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sober opinion for the welfare and progress of this Empire which we all of us have so much at heart.

In conclusion I thank you very warmly for the friendly tone of your personal references to myself and the policy that I have tried to follow. I cordially welcome the assurances that you have given me of the continued and unimpeachable loyalty of the community which you represent which I will not fail to transmit to the King-Emperor, although for me such assurances were not needed, and I devoutly hope that the pure and unalloyed faith of your people in the unity of God and of loyalty to their rulers may burn like a flame and ever grow brighter to lighten your path for many ages to come.

**PRESENTATION OF COLOURS TO THE NORTHUMBER-
LAND FUSILIERS AT SUBATHU.**

[His Excellency the Viceroy presented Colours to the North- 15th May
umberland Fusiliers at Subathu on the morning of the 15th May. 1914.

His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief was present at the function.

The Bishop of Lahore consecrated the Colours after which His Excellency the Viceroy in presenting them to the Regiment said:—]

Colonel Enderby, Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers and Men of the Northumberland Fusiliers,—Of the many State ceremonials over which it is my duty to preside, there are none that I esteem a greater privilege than that of presenting colours to one of His Majesty's regiments. And the pleasure which this privilege confers on me is all the greater when that regiment is an old and distinguished corps like your own, with a history going back to the days of the Stuarts and a record of martial achievements represented by 19 battle honours.

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These battle honours show how world-wide have been your services. Your regiment has served in every quarter of the globe and has engaged every kind of enemy, from the war-worn veterans of Napoleon to the predatory Pathans of our North-West Frontier. Mr. Roosevelt, the late President of the United States, in a book entitled "The Winning of the West," testifies in appreciative terms to the ubiquitous services of the British Army. "The scarlet-coated soldiers," he says, "who serve the monarchy of Great Britain, wear a uniform which, for the last two hundred years, has been better known than any other wherever the pioneers of civilisation tread the world's waste places, or fight their way to the overlordship of decaying Empires."

The annals of our famous old line regiments form, indeed, a veritable epitome of our national history. They are rich in inspiring examples of courage, discipline and self-sacrifice, and show how much the Army has contributed to the building up of the Empire, and to how great an extent the maintenance of that Empire must depend upon its spirit, its numbers and its efficiency.

Your gallant and distinguished corps was raised in 1674, being one of six British regiments formed in that year for the service of the States General of Holland. It was while in the Dutch service that it adopted the badge of St. George to mark its English origin, and it was then, also that it assumed the gosling green facings which have been the pride and distinction of the "fighting fifth" for over two hundred years.

After seeing much service in Holland, including the siege of Maastricht, where it first came under the command of William of Orange, the 5th, then known as "Monk's Regiment," came over to England in 1688 as part of the force which accompanied William and Mary

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when they were called to the English throne. It was then brought on to the English establishment as the 5th Foot, and a few years later took part in the battle of the Boyne and the siege of Namur.

A brief experience of service as Marines with the fleet in the West Indies, was followed in 1707 by a campaign in Portugal and Spain under the Earl of Galway. In the action of Caya, fought in 1709, the 5th greatly distinguished themselves, their stubborn gallantry in a hard fought rear-guard combat being the means of saving from destruction their defeated Portuguese allies. On the termination of this war, the regiment proceeded to Gibraltar, where it remained for 15 years, taking part in the defence of the fortress when it was besieged in 1757 by the Spaniards.

A long spell of home service ensued, which was varied in 1758 by combined naval and military operations on the coast of France, taking the form of raids on the ports of St. Malo and Cherbourg. As raids these attacks were very successful, much damage being done to the enemy's shipping, forts, ordnance and magazines; and though the strategic results may have been of no great importance, these descents are of special interest as illustrating how close must be the co-operation between the Navy and the Army to ensure success in the operations of an Island Power.

Two years later found the 5th fighting in Germany. The regiment took a notable part in the actions of Corbach, Warbourg and Denkers, and earned great renown at Wilhelmstahl, where it defeated and captured a whole division of French Grenadiers. In recognition of its distinguished services on this occasion, the 5th were allowed to adopt the tall Grenadier caps of their prisoners in place of their own three-cornered cocked hats.

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The 5th were serving in Ireland in 1774 when the revolt of the American Colonists necessitated the despatch of troops across the Atlantic. The regiment was present at Lexington, the opening action of this long and disastrous war, and a few weeks later took a prominent part in the hard-fought battle of Bunker's Hill. Twice the British troops were repulsed, and twice they returned to the charge. Nothing short of the most determined bravery could have secured success, and it speaks well for the pluck of the 5th that they should have gained their goal at the third attempt, despite almost overwhelming difficulties. Having made their final charge, they carried the enemy's works at the point of the bayonet, and at the end of the fight found them masters of the ground vacated by their stubborn opponents. Well might General Burgoyne say of this engagement,—“The 5th behaved the best and suffered the most,” for the heavy casualties suffered by the regiment bear witness to the severity of the struggle.

After taking part in the actions of Long Island, White Plains, Germantown, and other events of this long and arduous but unsuccessful campaign, the regiment embarked at New York in 1778 and proceeded to the West Indies. There it greatly distinguished itself at St. Lucia, when the French, with a fleet and army under the Comte de Grasse, tried to recapture the island from the British. Having occupied an isolated post called La Vigie, the 5th held it, single-handed, against some 9,000 French who made three fierce assaults on the place, only to be beaten off each time with heavier losses. The distinguished conduct of the regiment on this occasion was recognised by the grant to it of the right to wear a white plume in their caps, in place of the red and white tuft then worn by all regiments of the line. This distinction was bestowed to commemorate the fact that

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the gallant soldiers of the 5th had taken from the head-dresses of the fallen French Grenadiers, more than enough white plumes to decorate the whole regiment.

In 1825 a white feather was ordered to be worn by all line regiments, and the 5th were then allowed to replace the tall white plume by which they had been long and honourably distinguished by a red and white one, which after sundry changes in pattern and size, survives as the red and white buckle that you are entitled to wear.

The 5th served in Holland in 1799, in Hanover in 1805, and in the ill-starred expedition to Buenos Ayres in 1807. It displayed that marked capacity for street fighting which was to be revived with such good effect at Lucknow half a century later. After being shipwrecked on the coast of Holland and taken prisoner, the regiment went on active service again in 1808, when one of its battalions proceeded to Portugal. It took part in the battles of Rolica and Vimiera, the retreat to Corunna and the glorious action fought there on the 16th June 1809 when Sir John Moore was killed. This battalion had not been at home a year, and had only just recruited its strength, when it was sent to Walcheren where it was decimated by malarial fever.

Meanwhile the other battalion of the 5th was actively engaged in the Peninsula under Wellington, and distinguished itself greatly in the battles of Busaco, Fuentes D'Onor, and the operations on the Coa. Among the minor engagements in which the regiment assisted, perhaps the most notable was the combat of El Bodon, when it formed part of a force which beat off the attacks of an overwhelming body of French cavalry. As this is, I understand, almost the only example in history of a bayonet charge made by infantry upon cavalry, I am tempted to give you an account of the incident in Napier's

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own stirring words. "The 5th and 77th, two weak battalions, were quite exposed, and in an instant the French cavalry came thundering down upon them. But how fruitless to match the sword against the musket.....
.....The multitudinous squadrons, rending the skies with their shouts and closing upon the glowing squares like the falling edges of a burning crater, were instantly rejected, scorched and scattered abroad; and the rolling peal of musketry had scarcely ceased to echo in the hills when bayonets glittered at the edge of the smoke, and with firm and even tread the British regiments came forth like the holy men from the Assyrian's furnaces."

Referring to the distinguished conduct of your regiment on this occasion, Wellington wrote in his despatches that "the conduct of the 2nd battalion of the 5th Foot affords a memorable example of what the steadiness and discipline of the troops and their confidence in their officers can effect in the most difficult and trying situations."

Equally distinguished was the conduct of the 5th at the siege of Ciudad Rodrigo where it assisted in the storming of the main breach and suffered heavy losses. The escalade of the castle at Badajoz, in which the regiment took the leading part, was another splendid feat. The first to gain the top of the ramparts was a party of the 5th under Ensign Canch, and it was followed up immediately by another under the Commanding Officer, Colonel Ridge, who fell in the moment of victory. I should like to quote again the eloquent words with which Napier describes this incident. To do so, however, would make my speech too long. I will therefore content myself by repeating that brilliant historian's concluding sentence—"No age," he says, "and no nation, ever sent forth braver troops to battle than those who stormed Badajoz."

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Both battalions of the 5th were employed in the latter phases of the Peninsula War, including the battles of Salamanca, Vittoria, Nivelle, Orthes and Toulouse. The distinguished services of the regiment in this campaign alone gained for it no less than twelve battle honours besides the honourable soubriquets of "the Old and Bold," and "the ever-fighting never-failing fifth"—the latter a favourite saying of Wellington's.

Despatched in haste from France to Canada in 1814, the 5th took part in various border skirmishes with the Americans including the action of Plattsburg. Its stay in Canada, however, was brief, for, on news being received of Napoleon's return from Elba, the regiment was hurried back to Europe and landed at Ostend, just too late to take part in the battle of Waterloo.

Forty-three years were now to elapse before the 5th were again in the field. The regiment was at Singapore when news was received of the outbreak of the Mutiny. It was promptly despatched to India; and landing at Calcutta on the 4th July 1857, was at once sent up-country. By the 2nd August, it fought its first action with the rebels, upon whom, at the relief of Arrah, it inflicted a signal defeat. From there the regiment proceeded to Cawnpore, and, as part of Havelock's force, took part in the relief of Lucknow, including the actions of Mungulwar and the Alum Bagh. After joining the beleaguered garrison of the Residency, the regiment took part in the defence of the latter and of the principal buildings around it, until, by the arrival of the troops under Sir Colin Campbell, the final relief was effected. When the latter withdrew to Cawnpore, the 5th remained in observation at the Alum Bagh until the siege and fall of the city in 1858. In these and the operations which followed, the regiment gained great renown, Victoria Crosses being won by Sergeant Robert Grant, and

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Privates Peter McManus and Patrick McHale, all for conspicuous gallantry.

Another 20 years were to pass before the regiment was again on service. It proceeded to Afghanistan in 1878, where it took part in the action of Deh Sarrak and Kam Dacca, and in other minor engagements. In 1888 the 5th gained their first experience of Indian frontier warfare, being employed in the expedition of that year against the tribesmen of the Black Mountain.

In 1898 the 5th were once more in the field, this time under Lord Kitchener. The regiment took part in the "crowning mercy" of Omdurman, which brought about the destruction of the Dervish power in the Soudan.

Scarce a year had elapsed when war was declared on the South African Republics, and both battalions of the regiment found themselves engaged in one of the most arduous and prolonged campaigns of modern times. The battalion, which formed part of Methuen's force advancing to the relief of Kimberley, took part in three fights within six days, *viz.*, those of Belmont, Graspan and Modder River.

The story of the services of your regiment in the field may now be completed with a brief reference to the Mohmand campaign of 1908, which was the last occasion on which the 5th were on active service.

Owing to cholera the part played by your regiment in this short but highly successful campaign was confined to the skilfully conducted action at Matta, where it acquitted itself with the credit that was to be expected of a corps with so distinguished a record.

Owing to the wide extensions necessary by reason of the range, accuracy and rapidity of fire of modern artillery and rifles, the carrying of colours in the field has been given up, and has become one of the traditions of the past. The colours, which I am about to present to you, will

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thus never be used, as so many of their predecessors have been, as a rallying point for your regiment on the battlefield. But if the practical utility of colours has disappeared, their psychological value has, if anything, increased. As symbols of the spirit of devotion to King and country, and of the self-sacrifice and *esprit de corps* which ennoble the profession of arms, giving it a glamour and distinction that no other calling can claim, colours have a real and enduring value which no changes in tactics can ever diminish. They express the achievements and martial traditions of generations of fighting Englishmen, and the inspiring memories evoked by reading the battle honours inscribed on them, act as a powerful incentive and example to their descendants, teaching the latter how the glorious deeds of their forefathers may be emulated, even if they cannot be surpassed.

It is with the confident assurance that the 5th Northumberland Fusiliers will always live up to the splendid traditions of their glorious past, that I now present these colours.

CALCUTTA
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